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**ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS**





86.  
*Great Britain, 1914-1918. Royal Welch Fusiliers.*

# THE WAR DIARY

(1914-1918)

OF

10TH (SERVICE) BATTALION

ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

EDITED BY

LIEUT.-COLONEL F. N. BURTON

(RETIRED, 87TH PUNJABIS)

AND LATE OF 10TH ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

ASSISTED BY

LIEUT. A. P. COMYNS, M.C.

10TH ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

PLYMOUTH

WILLIAM BRENDON & SON, LIMITED

1926

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## PREFACE

THE printing, and publication, of the Diary of the 10th (Service) battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, has been approved by the Director of the Historical Section (Military Branch) Committee of Imperial Defence, and we desire to take this opportunity of recording our thanks to the Director and his staff for the assistance rendered in granting us access to certain War Diaries. The publication of this Diary is undertaken with the hope that it will prove to be of absorbing interest to all those who served in it for any period from the date of its formation in September, 1914, to the date of its disbandment in February, 1918. It is thought that not only will it be of greatest possible interest to the officers and men who are still living, but it is hoped that it will be a possession of pride to the relatives and friends of over 750 Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Fusiliers who were killed in action, died of wounds, or became casualties from the effects of the war, when serving in the battalion.

Such matters as the state of the weather, details of training, unimportant items of battalion routine, etc., have been omitted, and, on the other hand, in some instances in the War Diary the casualties are only stated in summary form, i.e. the totals of killed, wounded, and missing; where possible the regimental numbers, initials, and names have been included, but errors doubtless exist and any corrections sent on a postcard to A. P. Comyns, M.C., 80 Elm Park Road, London, S.W. 3, will be received gladly.

The operations briefly referred to in this Diary, together with the names of officers, other ranks, places and trenches mentioned, will recall many memories to those readers who served with the 10th battalion. It may be that some will think of episodes which are unrecorded, and names of officers and men may have been omitted from the Diary.

It should however be borne in mind that war diaries are sometimes compiled in circumstances of great stress and difficulty, especially after heavy and prolonged fighting. Under such conditions it is not surprising that the War Diary was occasionally compressed to narrow limits.

A few words are due to record the continuous and generous service given by the wives of officers of the battalion, including Lady Florence Beresford-Ash, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Maples, Mrs. James, Mrs. Chapman, and many other ladies and their friends, who assisted in keeping up a constant supply of woollen socks and other necessaries for distribution to our men, particularly during the winter months. To help this work, a battalion "Comforts Fund" was started soon after the battalion arrived in France, to which all the officers subscribed generously. It enabled Christmas gifts in some form or other being sent out to the battalion during the three winters of 1915, 1916, 1917, passed in the trenches, and it was also a help in maintaining a regular fortnightly supply of socks being despatched, which proved to be of the greatest possible benefit to all.

That the efforts of these ladies and their friends were fully appreciated can be seen in the following extracts from letters received :

"What we should have done without the socks this winter is hard to imagine, and I think that the fact that, up to now, we have only had two cases of 'trench-feet' in the battalion, is directly due to your efforts." Again : "I daresay you have heard the line we were holding was the vilest on the Front. Anyhow, your socks enabled us to give the men a change of socks every night."

Acknowledgment is also due to Dame Margaret Lloyd-George's "National Fund for Welsh Troops," from whom we received consignments of socks from time to time.

# ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

## ARMY ORDERS.

XVIII. Augmentation of the Army. With reference to Army Order I of 21st August, 1914 (A.O. 324 of 1914), and Army Order XII of 11th September, 1914, His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of a further addition to the Army, of six Divisions and Army troops.

2. These Divisions will be numbered from 21 to 26.

3. The new battalions will be raised as additional battalions of the regiments of Infantry of the Line, and will be given numbers following consecutively on the existing battalions of these regiments. They will be further distinguished by the word "Service" after the numbers.

### *Appendix A.*

#### 25TH DIVISION.

|              |   |                                                                 |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 76th Brigade | { | 10th (Service) battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers.                 |
|              |   | 6th (Service) battalion The South Wales Borderers.              |
|              |   | 7th (Service) battalion The King's (Shropshire Light Infantry). |
|              |   | 10th (Service) battalion The Welch Regiment.                    |

### *Appendix C.*

25th Division Commander, Major-General F. Ventris.

76th Brigade Commander, Brig.-General H. J. Archdale.

1914, *September 19th.* In compliance with above Army Orders, recruiting was commenced at the Regimental Depot, Royal Welch Fusiliers, Wrexham, during September, and the recruits were formed into three Companies, A, B, C, being the nucleus of the 10th (Service) battalion, under Major F. N. Burton (retired, 87th Punjabis, Indian Army) and 2nd Lieut. B. D. Johns.

26th. The battalion entrained at Wrexham, and proceeded, in two troop trains, to Codford-St. Mary, Wiltshire, where it went under canvas in the camp of the 76th Brigade, under Brig.-General H. J. Archdale (retired, Royal Welch Fusiliers).

The undermentioned Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: Major C. H. Lord, Captain E. W. Maples, Captain E. Freeman, Lieut. and Qr.-Mr. E. H. Chapman, 2nd Lieut. C. G. Lloyd, 2nd Lieut. W. P. Griffiths, 2nd Lieut. G. E. Tyler, 2nd Lieut. J. P. Carrington, 2nd Lieut. C. A. R. Follitt, 2nd Lieut. A. W. Spence, 2nd Lieut. H. V. Piercy.

*October 1st.* Captain E. Freeman appointed Adjutant.

3rd. Col.-Sergt. J. Hill appointed Regt. Sergt.-Major.

7th. The following Officer joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: Major H. C. C. Gibbings (retired pay, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

10th. The battalion, in Brigade, was inspected by Lieut.-General Pitcairn-Campbell, c.B., General Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, on behalf of the Secretary of State for War. Report on inspection, "Satisfactory."

13th. Brevet-Colonel W. R. H. Beresford-Ash (retired pay, Royal Welch Fusiliers) joined the battalion, and assumed Command, on appointment. Major F. N. Burton, on relief of Command, assumed appointment of Second-in-Command.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: 2nd Lieut. F. C. G. Larkworthy, 2nd Lieut. R. W. Phillipps, 2nd Lieut. H. A. V. Maynard, Lieut. R. S. Renton (R.A.M.C.).

*November 11th.* The battalion, in Brigade, entrained at Wylve Station, and proceeded in two troop trains to Bournemouth, Hants, and marched into its allotted billets in the Winton-Moordown district, 2 miles north of Bournemouth.

During November and December, the undermentioned Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. J. A. Walker, 2nd Lieut. T. A. Oliver, 2nd Lieut. H. A. Davies, 2nd Lieut. H. J. K. Lewis, 2nd Lieut. A. W. Fish, 2nd Lieut. C. E. L. Locke, 2nd Lieut. G. D. Scale, 2nd Lieut. A. G. W. Buchanan, 2nd Lieut. J. L. T. Davies, 2nd Lieut. E. W. Bell, 2nd Lieut. A. V. Cree, 2nd Lieut. H. E. Wynne-Williams, 2nd Lieut. W. B. Morgan.

*December 30th.* Major C. H. Lord dropped dead, from heart failure, when on parade with B Coy. Extract from battalion orders : Deaths, Officers, No. 213.

In announcing the above, with deep regret, the Commanding Officer wishes to place on record the fact of this Officer having come forward, at the age of 65 years, to offer his services again to his country in the present national crisis, thereby setting an example to all in serving his King and Country in whatever way he could.

1915. The following Officers, during January, joined for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. R. A. Adamson, 2nd Lieut. O. S. Hughes, 2nd Lieut. M. Murray, 2nd Lieut. W. Hughes, Captain G. P. Blake, 2nd Lieut. R. O. Stanley, 2nd Lieut. A. Nevitt, 2nd Lieut. A. J. S. James, 2nd Lieut. J. O. W. Candy, 2nd Lieut. B. J. Stedman, 2nd Lieut. W. T. Lyons.

*February 1st.* The Commanding Officer announces, with deep regret, the death of Major-General Sir Luke O'Connor, v.c., K.C.B., Colonel of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, who, enlisting in the 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers, passed through every rank and grade from Private to Colonel, and fought throughout the Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny, and the Ashanti War.

*March 1st.* In accordance with regimental custom, a telegram was sent to His Majesty, the Colonel-in-Chief, and the following telegram in reply was received :

“Buckingham Palace—His Majesty thanks the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and men, of the 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers for their Loyal and Dutiful Greetings on Saint David's Day.”

*3rd.* Major-General Sir F. Lloyd, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., was appointed Colonel of the Regiment vice Major-General Sir Luke O'Connor, v.c., K.C.B., deceased.



*March 19th.* 2nd Lieut. F. A. Samuel joined the battalion for duty, on appointment.

*April 29th.* The battalion marched into temporary billets at Ringwood, Hants.

*30th.* The battalion marched to Romsey, Hants, and went under canvas with the other three battalions of the 76th Brigade.

*May 14th.* The battalion, in Brigade, was inspected by Lieut.-General Sir A. J. Murray, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., of the Army Council. Report on inspection, "Satisfactory."

*26th.* Major-General B. Doran, C.B., assumed Command of the 25th Division vice Major-General F. Ventriss, vacated.

*27th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to Flower-down Camp, Winchester.

*28th.* The battalion marched into temporary billets at Alresford, Hants.

*29th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched into temporary billets at Odiham, Hants.

*June 3rd.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to Aldershot, and, with the 8th battalion King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), occupied the Barossa Barracks. 2nd Lieut. P. T. Dale joined the battalion for duty, on appointment.

*8th.* The battalion, in Division, was inspected by General Sir A. Hunter, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding Aldershot Training Centre.

*9th.* The Commanding Officer announces, with much regret, the death of Lieut. C. G. Lloyd, A Coy.

*July.* Throughout July the battalion was steadily engaged in every form of training, company, battalion, Brigade, and Division, including long marches and night and day operations in the vicinity of Aldershot and Farnborough. Service rifles and Lewis machine-guns were also issued and musketry training commenced, all tending to show that the long-expected move overseas would soon take place.

*August.* The battalion, in Division, was inspected by Field-Marshal the Earl Kitchener of Khartoum, K.G., K.P., G.C.B., O.M., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., Secretary of State for War. Report on inspection, "Satisfactory."

Later in the month, the battalion, in Brigade, was

inspected on the line of march, near Aldershot, by His Majesty the King, who was accompanied by Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary.

Valedictory message by His Majesty, the King.

TO THE DIVISIONS (21ST-26TH) OF THE 3RD NEW ARMY.

“ Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men ; You are about to join your Comrades at the Front in bringing to a successful end this relentless war of nearly a year’s duration. Your prompt patriotic answer to the Nation’s call-to-arms will never be forgotten.

The keen exertions of all ranks during the period of training have brought you to a state of efficiency not unworthy of my Regular Army. I am confident that, in the Field, you will uphold the traditions of the fine Regiments whose names you bear. Ever since your enrolment I have watched the growth, and steady progress of all Units.

I shall continue to follow with interest the fortunes of your Division.

In bidding you Farewell, I pray God may bless you in all your undertakings.”

ALDERSHOT, 1915.

*September.* The musketry and machine-gun training was completed, and all the necessary transport and equipment was issued, and, orders to be in readiness for service overseas being received, all ranks of the battalion were allowed to proceed on leave to their homes.

The following Officers were transferred to the 12th (Reserve) battalion : Major H. C. C. Gibbings, Major E. W. Maples, 2nd Lieut. H. A. Davies, 2nd Lieut. R. O. Stanley, 2nd Lieut. J. P. Carrington, 2nd Lieut. H. V. Piercy, 2nd Lieut. T. A. Oliver, 2nd Lieut. J. O. Candy, 2nd Lieut. B. J. Stedman. Captain W. T. Lyons was appointed Adjutant vice Major E. Freeman who, on promotion, was appointed to Command C Coy. in place of Major E. W. Maples.

Regimental Sergt.-Major J. Hill left the battalion, on promotion to Lieut. and Qr.-Mr. of the 20th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, and Company Sergt.-Major J.

## 12 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Robertson was appointed Regimental Sergt.-Major, in his place.

*Regimental and Company Staff embarking for France.*

Commanding Officer, Brevet-Colonel W. R. H. Beresford-Ash.

Second-in-Command, Major F. N. Burton.

Adjutant, Captain W. T. Lyons.

Qr.-Mr., Lieut. E. H. Chapman.

Signalling Officer, Captain E. W. Bell.

Transport Officer, Lieut. A. J. S. James.

Machine-Gun Officer, Lieut. G. D. Scale.

Bombing Officer, Lieut. W. B. Morgan.

Medical Officer, Captain B. Grellier.

Chaplain, Captain the Rev. D. C. Williams.

### *Company Commanders.*

A Coy. Captain R. A. Adamson.

B Coy. Captain G. P. Blake.

C Coy. Major E. Freeman.

D Coy. Captain F. A. Samuel.

### *Company Second-in-Command.*

A Coy. Captain E. W. Bell.

B Coy. Captain W. P. Griffiths.

C Coy. Captain B. D. Johns.

D Coy. Captain J. A. Walker.

### *Platoon Commanders.*

No. 1. Lieut. W. B. Morgan.

No. 2. 2nd Lieut. W. Hughes.

No. 3. 2nd Lieut. H. J. K. Lewis.

No. 4. 2nd Lieut. H. E. Wynne-Williams.

No. 5. 2nd Lieut. A. V. Cree.

No. 6. 2nd Lieut. F. C. G. Larkworthy.

No. 7. 2nd Lieut. C. A. R. Follitt.

No. 8. 2nd Lieut. A. G. Buchanan.

No. 9. Lieut. A. J. S. James.

No. 10. Lieut. M. Murray.

No. 11. 2nd Lieut. A. W. Fish.

No. 12. Lieut. H. A. V. Maynard.

No. 13. 2nd Lieut. A. Nevitt.

No. 14. 2nd Lieut. J. L. T. Davies.  
 No. 15. 2nd Lieut. C. L. Locke.  
 No. 16. 2nd Lieut. O. S. Hughes.  
 Regimental Sergt.-Major J. Robertson.  
 Regimental Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. E. Jones.  
 Orderly Room Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. H. Gurrey.  
 Orderly Room Sergt. J. Eaton.  
 Regimental Transport Sergt. H. Taylor.  
 Officers' Mess Sergt. T. H. Killingback.

*Company Sergt.-Major.*

A Coy. Company Sergt.-Major E. Peters.  
 B Coy. Company Sergt.-Major W. H. Reynolds.  
 C Coy. Company Sergt.-Major E. Fisher.  
 D Coy. Company Sergt.-Major C. Owen.

*Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt.*

A Coy. Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. A. Clarke.  
 B Coy. Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. T. Paton.  
 C Coy. Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. A. Southby.  
 D Coy. Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. G. Jones.

*September 26th.* Embarkation for France. The advance party, consisting of the regimental machine-gun sections (Lieut. G. D. Scale); transport personnel, animals, vehicles (Lieut. A. J. S. James), the whole under Command of Major F. N. Burton, left Aldershot by troop train for Southampton, and embarked for France on the transport s.s. "City of Benares." Strength: 3 Officers, 108 other ranks, 76 animals.

*27th.* The above advance party disembarked at Le Havre and marched into rest camp. The battalion, under Command of Colonel W. R. H. Beresford-Ash, left Aldershot by troop train for Dover, and embarked on the s.s. "Onward" for Boulogne, where they marched into rest camp. Strength: 27 Officers, 888 other ranks.

*28th.* The advance party entrained at Le Havre and went by troop train to Pont-des-Briques, where it joined the battalion and the whole—

*29th.* —at 2 a.m. on the 29th proceeded by rail to Caestre, where the battalion detrained and marched into billets at Merris and neighbouring farms.

## 14 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

*October 5th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched into temporary billets at Bailleul.

*7th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the Ploegstrete trench area and formed the support to the battalions of the Brigade in the trenches.

*9th.* The battalion marched into temporary billets at Bailleul.

*10th.* The battalion marched into reserve camp at G 18b, Vlamertinghe.

*12th.* The battalion was attached, *pro tem.*, to 8th Brigade (Brig.-General J. D. Maclachlan). A, B Coys. marched into the Ypres salient trenches and were attached to the 2nd battalion Royal Scots, for forty-eight hours' instruction in trench duties.

*13th.* The battalion (Hd.-Qrs. and C, D Coys.) marched into the Ypres salient trenches for instruction in trench duties by the 2nd battalion Royal Scots. A, B Coys. returned to Reserve Camp on completion of their instruction.

*15th.* A, B Coys. rejoined battalion head-quarters in Ypres salient, and the battalion took over the portion of the Hooze trenches (Sections A 11 to A 4) held by the 2nd battalion Royal Scots, who, on relief, marched back to their rest billets. Battalion distribution : C, D Coys. in first-line trenches, B Coy. in reserve trenches, A Coy. in redoubts 2, 3.

Casualties—killed : No. 15002 Pte. H. L. Eede ; wounded : No. 23185 Pte. T. Roberts.

*16th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 15318 Pte. W. H. Williams, No. 23305 Pte. L. Broadhurst.

*17th.* At 7 p.m. B and D Coys. exchanged positions.

Casualties—killed : No. 27288 Pte. S. Gamm ; wounded : No. 16025 Pte. J. Parry. The death of Pte. Parry from above wounds, was notified about seven days later. He had sixty-three distinct wounds from the shrapnel shell which hurst in the front bay of his section of D Coy.

*18th.* At 6 a.m. A and C Coys. exchanged positions.

Casualties—wounded : No. 14655 Corpl. G. Pemberton, No. 14286 L/Corpl. S. Bunce, No. 15722 Corpl. W. S. Jones, No. 15731 Pte. S. Hollingsworth, No. 15336 Sergt. J. Hughes, No. 15430 Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. A. Southby, No. 15736 Pte. E. Roberts.

*October 19th.* B Coy. marched back to rest camp at G 18b, on relief by a company of the 13th battalion King's Liverpool Regiment.

*20th.* The battalion (Hd.-Qrs., A, C, D Coys.) on relief by the 13th battalion King's Liverpool Regiment, marched out of the Ypres salient trenches into temporary billets at Poperinghe.

*21st.* B Coy., the battalion transport, Quartermaster's establishment, etc., marched from rest camp, 2 miles E. of Poperinghe, and rejoined the battalion in billets there.

The 76th Brigade having been reconstituted, was now concentrated at Poperinghe, and incorporated with the 3rd Division, Commanded by Major-General J. A. L. Haldane, C.B.

At 5 p.m., the battalion, in Brigade (Commanded by Brig.-General Pratt, D.S.O.), composed of 8th battalion King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders, 4th (T.) battalion Gordon Highlanders marched to Eecke and went into rest billets in the neighbouring farms.

*27th.* A representative detachment of N.C.O.'s and men of the battalion marched to Reninghelst, and there joined a battalion (formed from representative detachments of all the battalions in the 3rd Division) under Command of Colonel W. R. H. Beresford-Ash, 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, and with other representative battalions of the remaining Divisions of the Second Army, were inspected by His Majesty the King, who was accompanied by the President of the French Republic (Monsieur Raymond Poincaré), and Field-Marshal Sir J. P. French, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief. The battalion remained in Eecke billets for the next three weeks, being fully occupied in route marching, entrenching, and bombing practice, and in general company and battalion training.

*November 3rd.* Casualties—accidentally killed: No. 15461 Pte. A. Edwards; wounded: No. 24637 Pte. Poffly, both of C Coy.

While at Eecke the battalion was inspected by Major-General J. A. L. Haldane, C.B., Commanding the 3rd Division, and also by General Sir H. Plumer, K.C.B.,

## 16 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Commanding the Second Army. Report on inspections, "Satisfactory."

*20th November.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched from rest billets, Eecke, into temporary rest camp at Reninghelst.

*21st.* The battalion marched into the trench area N.-E. of St. Eloi, and relieved the 8th battalion The Buffs, in Trenches Nos. 31, 30, 29, and the 1st battalion Northumberland Fusiliers in Trench No. 28.

Distribution : D Coy. in Trench 28, A Coy. in Trench 29, B Coy. in Trench 30, C Coy. in Trench 31.

*22nd.* Casualties—killed : No. 23493 Pte. J. Coldough ; wounded : No. 15254 Corpl. H. Foulkes.

*23rd.* Casualties—killed : No. 13839 Pte. G. Hoosen.

*24th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 15802 Corpl. H. Stapley, No. 27234 Pte. J. Bryant, No. 15044 Pte. T. H. Mansfield.

Private Bryant was being carried in a stretcher down Trench 28 communication trench by Pte. Mansfield and three stretcher bearers of the R.A.M. Corps, when a shrapnel shell burst and again wounded him, besides the four men with him. (Pte. Bryant died of his wounds the next day.) D Coy., on relief in Trench 28 by the 1st battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, was moved into reserve post, in rear of Trench 31.

*25th.* 2nd Lieut. P. T. Dale joined the battalion for duty on appointment.

*26th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 16047 Pte. W. Wyer, No. 15148 Pte. J. Sparkes, No. 20011 Pte. H. Lester.

*27th.* Casualties—killed : No. 15251 Pte. R. Owens.

Two German casualties were claimed by a battalion sniper and a sentry.

*28th.* The battalion, on relief by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment in the trenches, marched into rest camp in the vicinity of Dickebusche, on the Ouderdoi Road.

Casualties—killed : No. 23213 Pte. T. Lynch ; wounded : No. 23201 Pte. M. Murphy.

*December 5th.* The battalion marched out of rest camp, Dickebusche, into the trench area and took over trenches occupied by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, who returned to rest camp, on relief.

Distribution : D Coy. (half platoon) in Trench 28 (left sub-section), A Coy. in Trench 29, N. of Ypres-Comines

Canal, B Coy. in Trench 30, C Coy. in Trench 31, remainder of D Coy., and specialist company, in reserve dug-outs, 31 R.

*December 6th.* Two German casualties claimed by battalion snipers.

*7th.* Casualties—killed : No. 15549 L/Corpl. W. Stainton.

*9th.* Three Petty Officers of the Grand Fleet were attached to the battalion for twenty-four hours, and joined A Coy. in the "Bluff" Trench 29.

Casualties—killed : No. 15089 Corpl. M. Evans ; wounded : No. 14966 Pte. E. Fry, No. 15396 Pte. D. Lewis, No. 15179 Pte. T. Rogers.

One German casualty claimed by battalion snipers.

*11th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, and marched back into rest camp, Dickebusche.

*17th.* The battalion marched out of rest camp at dusk, and took over their former trenches from 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, who, after relief, marched to rest camp.

Casualties—killed : No. 14986 Pte. J. Roberts ; died of wounds : No. 15340 Pte. E. O. Williams ; wounded : No. 15725 Sergt. S. Dillow, No. 23360 Pte. W. Downes.

*18th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15613 Corpl. J. J. Williams ; wounded : No. 15635 Pte. Z. Pritchard.

*19th.* Casualties—killed : No. 15053 Pte. H. Hockam ; died of wounds : No. 15249 Pte. T. Mason, No. 15340 Pte. E. Williams ; wounded : No. 15652 Pte. T. Wheel, No. 15566 Sergt. R. H. Harding, No. 3116 Pte. E. Ashton, No. 15548 L/Corpl. D. Salisbury, No. 15078 Pte. J. Higginson.

*21st.* Casualties—killed : No. 15472 Pte. J. Humphries ; wounded : No. 15023 Pte. W. Smith, No. 15492 Pte. F. Hughes, No. 15380 Pte. D. Griffiths, No. 15078 Pte. J. Higginson.

*22nd.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15613 Corpl. L. J. Williams.

*23rd.* Casualties—wounded : No. 15561 Sergt. T. Lloyd, No. 15719 Corpl. J. Wright, No. 23304 Pte. S. Hughes, No. 15438 Pte. W. J. Evans, No. 15699 Pte. T. J. Owens.

The battalion, on relief in the trenches by 2nd battalion



## 18 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Suffolk Regiment, marched into rest camp near Dickebusche.

Major E. Freeman assumed temporary appointment of Second-in-Command vice Major F. N. Burton, invalided to England.

*December 27th.* Casualties—wounded : Colonel W. R. H. Beresford-Ash.

*29th.* Major F. L. Makgill-Crichton-Maitland (1st battalion Gordon Highlanders) assumed temporary Command of the battalion vice Colonel Beresford-Ash, wounded.

*30th.* A reinforcing draft from the 3rd (Reserve) battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers arrived, and was taken on the strength with effect from the 18th instant.

*31st.* The battalion marched out of rest camp and took over its former trenches from the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, who after relief marched back to rest camp.

1916, *January 1st.* The battalion in the trenches ; N.-E. of St. Eloi, on the Ypres-Comines Canal.

*2nd.* Casualties—killed : No. 15290 Pte. W. Evans, No. 23958 Pte. F. Barnett ; died of wounds : No. 15160 L/Corpl. R. Jones ; wounded : No. 15332 Company Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. T. Paton, No. 31318 Pte. T. Edmunds, No. 15264 Pte. O. Mills, No. 15206 Pte. W. Robinson.

*3rd.* Casualties—wounded : No. 8732 Sergt. W. Hawkins, No. 14984 Pte. T. W. Jones.

*4th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 24424 Pte. F. Harrhy, No. 15614 Pte. J. Owen, No. 15633 Pte. H. Humphries, No. 15446 Pte. J. Millon, No. 15056 Pte. T. Nixon.

*6th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15160 L/Corpl. R. Jones, No. 24424 Pte. F. Harrhy.

*7th.* The battalion, on relief by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, marched into rest camp near Dickebusche.

*14th.* The battalion marched out of rest camp to the trench area, and took over Trenches 31-29 from the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, who, after relief, marched back to rest camp.

*16th.* Casualties—killed : No. 3167 Sergt. R. J. Loftus ; wounded : No. 14195 Pte. W. Evans, No. 18316 Pte. C. W. Jones, No. 24915 Pte. P. Kynaston.

*17th.* A reinforcing draft of 3 men from 3rd (Reserve) battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers arrived and was taken on the strength from this date.

*January 21st.* The battalion, on relief by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in the trenches, marched into rest camp at Dickebusche.

*24th.* The Germans having sprung a mine under the Bluff in the No. 29 Trench position, held by a company of the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, a party of 3 Officers and 100 other ranks, under Captain R. A. Adamson, marched from rest camp to the trench area to assist in repairing the position.

Casualties—killed : No. 5131 Pte. B. O'Brien ; wounded : Captain R. A. Adamson, No. 15066 Company Sergt.-Major E. Peters, No. 15095 Pte. S. M. Evans, No. 27227 Pte. E. Johnson, No. 11944 Pte. A. G. Samson, No. 23430 Pte. E. Griffiths.

*26th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 27227 Pte. E. Johnson.

*27th.* Major F. L. Makgill-Crichton-Maitland (Gordon Highlanders) appointed to Command the battalion, with acting rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

*28th.* The battalion marched to the trenches and relieved the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, who marched back to rest camp.

Half of Trench 32 was also taken over from the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders.

*29th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 15413 Sergt. W. J. Bridle, No. 15000 Pte. W. Williams.

*30th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15000 Pte. W. Williams.

*February 4th.* The battalion, less A, B Coys., on relief by 2nd Suffolk Regiment in the trenches, marched back to rest camp.

*5th.* Major S. Binny (Reserve of Officers, late 19th Hussars) assumed Command of the battalion vice Major Makgill-Crichton-Maitland.

*6th.* The battalion, less A, B Coys. (Commanded by Major E. Freeman) marched to Poperinghe, where it entrained for Audruicq, and thence marched into temporary billets at Hillebronch.

A, B Coys. on relief in the trenches by the 10th battalion Notts and Derby Regiment (Sherwood Foresters), marched back to rest camp "K."

*7th.* The battalion, less A, B Coys., marched to Ganspette

and there took over rest billets from the 7th battalion Border Regiment.

*February 8th.* A, B Coys. under Major E. Freeman marched to Poperinghe, entrained for Audruicq, and thence marched to Ganspette and rejoined the battalion in rest billets.

*14th.* Orders having been received to move the 76th Brigade back to the trench area, where the Germans had just mined and then attacked the Ypres-Comines Canal trenches, and carried the first line of trenches (lately occupied by the 76th Brigade) held by the 17th Division; the battalion, in Brigade, marched out of rest billets at Ganspette to Watten, entrained for Poperinghe, and thence marched into camp near Vlamertinghe.

*16th.* The battalion marched into the trench area N.E. of St. Eloi and took over what remained of the old trenches, from the 7th battalion East Yorks Regiment.

Distribution: D Coy. in Trench 32, C Coy. in Trench 31, B Coy. in Trench 30, A Coy. in Trench 29 (Bluff trenches) and 30R.

*17th.* At 5.30 a.m. the enemy heavily bombarded the battalion trenches for over half an hour.

#### *Casualties—Killed*

|                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain B. D. Johns              | Lieut. A. V. Cree               |
| No. 15201 Pte. A. Bassett        | No. 16238 Pte. J. Campbell      |
| No. 18300 Pte. E. Capey          | No. 15787 L/Sergt. E. Catherall |
| No. 16291 Pte. W. Millington     | No. 12476 Pte. H. L. Cocker     |
| No. 15529 Pte. T. Evans          | No. 31159 Pte. L. Fallows       |
| No. 15119 Pte. D. Jones          | No. 23358 Pte. D. Lindley       |
| No. 12781 Pte. T. Marston        | No. 15572 Pte. J. Parr          |
| No. 23754 L/Corpl. J. E. Roberts | No. 15670 Pte. R. Roberts       |
| No. 23452 Pte. W. V. Roberts     | No. 15088 Sergt. R. Rowlands    |
| No. 15416 Pte. T. Stewart        | No. 13956 Pte. H. Stooks        |
| No. 23211 Pte. H. Timms          |                                 |

#### *Died of wounds*

|                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 15142 Pte. T. John          | No. 15338 Pte. C. Jones     |
| No. 15502 Pte. T. O. Davies     | No. 23687 Pte. C. Northwood |
| No. 16023 L/Corpl. H. T. Davies |                             |

#### *Wounded*

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Captain G. P. Blake          | Lieut. M. Murray           |
| 2nd Lieut. A. G. W. Buchanan |                            |
| No. 23281 Corpl. J. Robinson | No. 15179 Pte. T. Rogers   |
| No. 15041 Pte. W. R. Morgan  | No. 14915 Pte. S. P. Parry |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                               |                                       |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| No. 24913 Pte. J. S. Vine     | No. 15399 Pte. W. Roberts             |
| No. 15046 Pte. H. Thomas      | No. 15025 Pte. W. J. Jones            |
| No. 23447 Pte. A. Abel        | No. 15377 Pte. W. H. Williams         |
| No. 15369 Pte. J. Roberts     | No. 15349 Pte. D. L. Jones            |
| No. 15537 Pte. E. Jones       | No. 15102 Pte. O. Parry               |
| No. 23488 Pte. J. Griffin     | No. 24779 Pte. G. W. Birchall         |
| No. 23205 J. F. Middleton     | No. 23481 Pte. W. D. Powell           |
| No. 15323 Pte. D. Ingram      | No. 15501 Pte. H. Hughes              |
| No. 15459 Pte. J. Dade        | No. 15790 Coy. Sergt.-Major E. Fisher |
| No. 23695 Pte. J. Marlow      | No. 15753 Sergt. J. P. Wright         |
| No. 15609 Pte. R. Richards    | No. 24793 Corpl. J. Roberts           |
| No. 15557 Pte. O. Stokes      | No. 15388 Pte. T. Marston             |
| No. 15648 Pte. F. Spencer     | No. 24828 Pte. P. Rogers              |
| No. 15626 Pte. T. Gray        | No. 16101 L/Corpl. B. Hapgood         |
| No. 2337 Pte. F. W. Pritchard | No. 16102 L/Corpl. T. Jenkins         |
| No. 15640 Pte. T. Jones       | No. 15697 Pte. J. Brown               |
| No. 15475 Pte. W. T. Williams | No. 4724 Pte. B. Benson               |
| No. 15491 Pte. O. Owens       | No. 12261 Pte. J. H. Lulling          |
| No. 19126 Pte. W. Green       | No. 16112 Pte. B. Davies              |
| No. 25339 Pte. A. Jones       | No. 23311 Pte. A. Purvis              |
| No. 23299 Pte. S. Hill        | No. 16055 Pte. E. Price               |
| No. 15556 Pte. A. Holden      |                                       |
| No. 13731 Pte. S. McCarthy    |                                       |

*February 19th.**Killed in Action*

## Captain J. A. Walker

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 15183 Pte. B. Davies      | No. 16259 L/Corpl. A. E. Wilkes |
| No. 16309 Pte. J. Evans       | No. 15731 Pte. S. Hollingsworth |
| No. 16055 Pte. E. Price       | No. 16199 Pte. M. Reardon       |
| No. 15301 Pte. C. A. Williams | No. 24404 Pte. J. J. Thomas     |
| No. 23276 Pte. T. Spencer     |                                 |

*Wounded*

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 16176 L/Corpl. D. D. Jones | No. 24890 Pte. V. Evans     |
| No. 27229 Pte. T. R. Gregory   | No. 15203 Pte. J. Williams  |
| No. 15393 Pte. W. J. Hewitt    | No. 15334 Pte. S. Evans     |
| No. 23428 Pte. J. C. Butler    | No. 13697 Pte. T. J. Connah |
| No. 15079 Pte. R. M. Williams  | No. 23151 Pte. J. Malkin    |
| No. 15373 Pte. O. J. Williams  | No. 15470 Pte. J. R. Davies |
| No. 9983 Pte. J. Shaw          | No. 10005 Pte. J. Ellis     |

The battalion relieved in Trenches 32, 31, 30, 29 by 2nd Suffolk Regiment and took over trenches and dug-outs, R9, R10, Gordon Terrace.

23rd. The battalion, on relief by 9th battalion West Riding Regiment, marched into temporary rest camp "J."

*February 25th.* A reinforcing draft of 19 rank and file arrived from the Base and were taken on the strength from this date.

*28th.* Casualties—wounded: No. 6080 Sergt. F. Cole, No. 15824 Pte. E. T. Roberts, No. 15695 Pte. T. J. Dackins, No. 15755 Pte. T. Shackley; missing: No. 15637 E. H. Wroe.

*March 1st.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the trenches, where the 76th Brigade relieved the 52nd Brigade, 17th Division.

Distribution: 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment on the right, 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers in support, and occupying Gordon Post and the new assembly trenches in rear of it. 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the centre trenches, and the 7th battalion Lincoln Regiment in support. The 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders occupied the left trenches.

*2nd.* The 76th Brigade, in above formation, attacked the enemy in the front trenches in the vicinity of the Bluff, which had been assaulted and captured from the 17th Division, on February 14th.

The attack was preceded by an intensive bombardment from our artillery, and the ensuing infantry assault was successful throughout, the old trenches being retaken, and also a small salient of the enemy's original trenches in front of Trench 30. The following messages of congratulation testify to the gallant behaviour of all ranks during the above operations.

From G.O.C. 3rd Division. "My congratulations; please convey to all ranks my appreciation of the gallant manner in which the attack was carried out."

From 17th Division. "Very hearty congratulations to all ranks on success gained."

From 51st Infantry Brigade. "Hearty congratulations on your complete success."

From Army Commander. "Am very pleased to have reports of your operations. Please convey my appreciation to all ranks."

From Commander-in-Chief. "I have heard, with very great pleasure, the good news of the capture of the Bluff and trenches North of the Canal. I have been

kept informed, from day to day, of the carefully thought-out and methodical preparations which have been devoted to this enterprise. Please convey to all ranks concerned in the operations, my heartiest congratulations and thanks."

## *Casualties—Killed in Action*

|                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 15127 Pte. D. Llewelyn  | No. 15131 Pte. L. Devereux    |
| No. 15136 Pte. W. H. Davies | No. 23486 Pte. M. B. Morris   |
| No. 15243 Pte. J. P. Jones  | No. 15334 Pte. G. Hornby      |
| No. 15680 Pte. G. Thomas    | No. 15700 Corpl. C. J. Reed   |
| No. 10636 Pte. T. Brady     | No. 16277 Pte. T. J. Llewelyn |
| No. 9804 Pte. A. Crowe      | No. 15715 Pte. H. Bevan       |

## *Died of Wounds in Action*

No. 15578 Pte. T. D. Evans

## *Missing, reported Killed*

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 17521 Pte. J. Owen | No. 15115 Pte. T. Griffiths |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|

## *Missing*

No. 14934 Pte. R. Pritchard

## *Wounded*

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Captain W. P. Griffiths         | Lieut. H. A. V. Maynard          |
| Lieut. H. J. K. Lewis           | 2nd Lieut. J. L. T. Davies       |
| No. 15386 Sergt. R. G. Roberts  | No. 16197 Sergt. D. F. Duignan   |
| No. 15312 L/Corpl. M. Driscoll  | No. 16027 Sergt. J. Holl         |
| No. 15603 L/Corpl. F. Brierley  | No. 15677 L/Corpl. A. W. Flook   |
| No. 15455 Pte. R. Pugh          | No. 23219 Pte. H. C. West        |
| No. 23297 Pte. H. Woodward      | No. 18351 Pte. G. Branch         |
| No. 15443 Pte. R. Williams      | No. 23202 Pte. A. E. James       |
| No. 15489 Pte. T. Jones         | No. 16284 Pte. W. J. Richards    |
| No. 24783 Pte. J. Jones         | No. 16247 Pte. S. Williams       |
| No. 15473 Pte. J. Jones         | No. 23220 Pte. T. Green          |
| No. 15593 Pte. M. G. Bellingham | No. 6621 Pte. T. Western         |
| No. 15555 Pte. E. A. McDonald   | No. 15668 Pte. J. Linham         |
| No. 23270 Pte. J. Nessling      | No. 16242 L/Corpl. P. C. Daniels |
| No. 23157 Pte. E. Walker        | No. 16031 Pte. A. C. Webster     |
| No. 15552 Pte. E. Thomas        | No. 10487 Pte. E. Jones          |
| No. 17319 Corpl. W. H. Moore    | No. 23204 Pte. A. E. Eckersley   |
| No. 23265 Pte. L. Pearson       | No. 15685 Pte. G. Laity          |
| No. 15205 Corpl. T. Keay        | No. 14906 Sergt. J. A. Jones     |
| No. 15036 Pte. J. Hughes        | No. 15410 Pte. R. E. Matthews    |
| No. 15097 Pte. E. S. Parry      | No. 23194 J. McReady             |
| No. 34792 Pte. G. E. Jones      | No. 15008 Pte. O. P. Williams    |
| No. 23436 Pte. E. Holland       | No. 15165 Pte. R. Roberts        |
| No. 23728 Pte. H. Harris        | No. 13997 Pte. T. Williams       |
| No. 15105 Pte. A. Petrie        | No. 15311 Pte. E. C. Jones       |
| No. 23439 L/Corpl. T. Brown     | No. 14640 Pte. R. Hughes         |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 23477 Pte. A. Harris       | No. 23371 Pte. J. Hughes      |
| No. 14644 Pte. R. Jones        | No. 31942 Pte. A. Brindall    |
| No. 15228 Pte. R. P. Jones     | No. 14825 Pte. W. Jones       |
| No. 14929 Pte. J. Simon        | No. 17179 Pte. R. H. Warhurst |
| No. 15370 Pte. T. Jones        | No. 14991 Pte. T. Jones       |
| No. 15343 Pte. H. Bramall      | No. 15277 Pte. J. Thomas      |
| No. 1118 Pte. J. Hughes        | No. 15585 L/Corpl. H. Smith   |
| No. 14166 Pte. W. P. Macdonald | No. 24788 Pte. G. Allcock     |
| No. 15452 Pte. J. McDonagh     | No. 15474 Pte. E. J. Williams |

*March 3rd.* A heavy howitzer shell made a direct hit on the battalion headquarter dug-out at Gordon Post, and occasioned the following casualties :

*Killed*

|                                                               |                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Major (Temporary Lieut.-Colonel) S. Binny, Commanding Officer |                                |
| Major Edward Freeman, Second-in-Command                       |                                |
| Captain W. T. Lyons, Adjutant                                 | 2nd Lieut. W. Hughes           |
| No. 15132 Pte. J. Williams                                    | No. 15664 L/Corpl. B. Dallison |
| No. 18328 Pte. H. Rogers                                      | No. 14971 Pte. W. T. Roberts   |
| No. 15371 Pte. G. Roberts                                     | No. 15451 Pte. P. O'Brien      |
| No. 23303 Pte. B. Knight                                      | No. 16114 Pte. W. Collins      |
| No. 15404 Corpl. W. B. Davey                                  |                                |

The 76th Brigade being relieved by the 8th Brigade, in the recaptured trenches, the battalion, on relief, marched back into billets at Poperinghe under Command of the senior remaining Officer, Captain F. A. Samuel.

*5th.* The battalion was inspected by General Sir H. Plumer, K.C.B., Commanding the Second Army, who congratulated all ranks on their behaviour during the recent operations at the Bluff.

*6th.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. D. McBean, 2nd Lieut. O. L. Jones, 2nd Lieut. W. N. Davies, 2nd Lieut. F. A. Lawson.

*9th.* Major G. R. Crosfield, 4th (T.) battalion South Lancashire Regiment, assumed Command of the battalion on appointment, with temporary rank of Lieut.-Colonel, vice Temporary Lieut.-Colonel Binny, D.S.O., killed in action.

*10th.* Captain D. W. G. Jackson joined the battalion for duty and assumed appointment of Second-in-Command vice Major E. Freeman, killed in action. The following Officers also joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : Captain T. Hughes, 2nd Lieut. H. W. Rayner.

*March 13th.* The battalion marched out of billets at Poperinghe and relieved the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in the trenches.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: Captain C. P. C. Daniell, 2nd Lieut. S. F. Bancroft, 2nd Lieut. W. J. D. Hale.

*14th.* Casualties—wounded: No. 15067 Pte. W. J. Hawes, No. 15010 Pte. W. Evans, No. 15135 Pte. W. Hughes.

*15th.* Casualties—killed: Lieut. D. McBean, No. 15125 L/Sergt. W. J. Evans; died of wounds: No. 15656 L/Sergt. A. V. Rackstraw; wounded: No. 15147 Pte. S. F. Davies, No. 15209 Pte. J. Jameson, No. 15077 Pte. G. Roberts, No. 16227 Sergt. J. Lewis, No. 15163 Pte. T. Edwards, No. 15043 Pte. D. J. Manton, No. 15139 Pte. W. Morgan, No. 15040 Corpl. A. Cole.

*17th.* The battalion, on relief by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in the trenches, marched back to camp "A."

Casualties—wounded: No. 23154 Pte. T. Crook, No. 15533 Pte. E. Jackson, No. 16193 Pte. D. J. Jones.

*21st.* The battalion marched to the trenches and relieved the 2nd Suffolk Regiment.

*23rd.* The 76th Brigade being relieved in the trench area by the 50th Brigade (17th Division), the battalion marched into temporary camp "H."

*24th.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: 2nd Lieut. W. G. Daniel, 2nd Lieut. A. E. Capell, 2nd Lieut. W. Siddons, 2nd Lieut. F. E. Crane, 2nd Lieut. J. C. Davies, 2nd Lieut. E. H. Bayliss.

*25th.* The battalion at camp "H," was inspected by Major-General J. A. L. Haldane, C.B., D.S.O., Commanding 3rd Division, who again congratulated all ranks on their bearing during the recent operations. The G.O.C. also presented the following Officers with ribbons of the respective decorations awarded them recently: Major (T/Lieut.-Colonel) G. R. Crosfield, the Distinguished Service Order, Captain B. Grellier (R.A.M. Corps), the Military Cross; he also gave a Memorial Card respecting the gallant conduct displayed by No. 15125 L/Sergt. W. J. Evans, killed in action on 15th instant.

Two companies went to the trenches in the vicinity of St. Eloi for twenty-four hours' fatigue duty.



## 26 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

No. 15246 Sergt. T. H. Killingback appointed Regimental Qr.-Mr.-Sergt.

*March 27th.* 2nd Lieut. E. Vaughan-Jones reported for duty on appointment.

The battalion marched from camp "H" to Scottish Wood, in the vicinity of Voormezele (St. Eloi trench area) and assumed position in reserve to 8th Brigade.

*28th.* The battalion moved forward and occupied trenches which were captured from the enemy on the 27th instant by the 9th Brigade.

*29th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 15069 Pte. J. Spooner, No. 23216 Pte. A. Mallett, No. 15019 Pte. W. Bowen, No. 24913 Pte. J. S. Vyne.

*30th.* About midday, a bombing party under Lieut. A. Nevitt, battalion Bombing Officer, attacked a German post.

### *Killed in Action*

|                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Captain W. P. Griffiths     | 2nd Lieut. H. E. Wynne-Williams  |
| No. 15039 L/Corpl. J. Evans | No. 15275 Pte. D. J. Morris      |
| No. 14192 L/Corpl. M. Evans | No. 15303 Pte. A. Phillips       |
| No. 15532 Pte. W. J. Hobson | No. 15474 Pte. E. J. Williams    |
| No. 23496 Pte. G. Tinsley   | No. 16242 L/Corpl. P. C. Daniels |

### *Wounded*

Major (T/Lieut.-Colonel) G. R. Crosfield    Captain C. P. C. Daniell  
2nd Lieut. A. Nevitt

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| No. 14968 L/Corpl. J. Jones     | No. 15110 Sergt. R. W. Barker    |
| No. 32514 Pte. R. Williams      | No. 18412 Pte. R. Billinghamurst |
| No. 14914 Pte. J. O. Pearce     | No. 15329 Pte. A. Melia          |
| No. 15358 Pte. T. Alsop         | No. 5552 Pte. J. Conway          |
| No. 15476 Pte. S. Craven        | No. 15375 Pte. O. T. Pierce      |
| No. 16311 Pte. W. Jones         | No. 24488 Pte. R. Hughes         |
| No. 15520 Pte. D. Davies        | No. 23206 Pte. H. Rock           |
| No. 25339 Pte. A. C. Jones      | No. 15434 Pte. E. Gwilt          |
| No. 15449 L/Corpl. J. Doyle     | No. 15477 Pte. H. J. Roberts     |
| No. 9233 Corpl. S. Astill       | No. 11082 Pte. F. Carpenter      |
| No. 15673 Pte. A. Edmonds       | No. 15590 L/Corpl. F. Wegg       |
| No. 15587 Pte. J. W. Jones      | No. 23499 Pte. T. Glover         |
| No. 19626 L/Corpl. J. Broadbent | No. 15443 Pte. R. Williams       |
| No. 13338 Pte. H. Francis       | No. 16317 Pte. T. White          |
| No. 16284 Pte. W. J. Richards   | No. 15764 Pte. H. Walters        |

Captain D. W. G. Jackson assumed Temporary Command of the battalion vice Lieut.-Colonel Crosfield, wounded.

*31st.* Casualty—wounded : Captain D. W. G. Jackson.

Captain F. A. Samuel assumed Temporary Command vice Captain Jackson, wounded.

*April 1st.* Three counter-attacks by the enemy were repulsed in the early morning.

Casualties—killed: Captain T. Hughes, No. 16242 L/Corpl. P. C. Daniels; wounded: 2nd Lieut. W. Siddons, 2nd Lieut. E. H. Bayliss.

The battalion was relieved in the advanced trenches by the 1st Gordon Highlanders.

Lieut. A. J. S. James was appointed acting Adjutant.

*2nd.* The battalion marched into rest billets one mile W. of Bailleul.

*5th.* The battalion marched into rest billets at Thieu-shouk, in the vicinity of Caestre.

*6th.* Captain A. de L. Long, 1st Gordon Highlanders, assumed Command of the battalion on appointment, with temporary rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

Captain A. Bles joined the battalion for duty, on appointment, and was detailed to Command the Specialist Company, and appointed Sniping and Intelligence Officer.

The following congratulatory message was issued from the General Officer Commanding 3rd Division, dated 24th March, 1916:

“The G.O.C 3rd Division has observed with satisfaction what a large amount of hard work the 76th Brigade, Pioneer battalion 17th Division, and Royal Engineers, have carried out during the past few days on the left Sector of the front held by the Division, which has just been handed over. Thanks to the ready response which has been made to his appeal, the defences have been restored to an extent exceeding his expectations, and the ground has been largely cleared of the debris resulting from the action of 2nd and 3rd March. He congratulates all ranks on their successful efforts, as well as those Officers of Engineers and Infantry who organized and superintended the work in question.”

From Brig.-General M. Powell, Commanding Artillery, 3rd Division:

“The 3rd Division Artillery wish to congratulate the 76th Infantry Brigade on their success, and to express their admiration for the way the 76th Brigade hung on

to the trenches under adverse circumstances, during the recent operations."

To which the following reply was sent by the General Officer Commanding 76th Brigade :

"Very many thanks for your kind message. We owe our success almost entirely to you and the Heavy Artillery, and hope that you will let all ranks know how grateful we are for their untiring help and how fully we realise the great strain the last few days has been to them."

The following message was received from Brig.-General E. St. G. Pratt, D.S.O., on relinquishing Command of the 76th Brigade, on account of sickness :

"In saying Good-bye to the Brigade, Brigadier-General Pratt wishes to thank all ranks for the ready support they have always given him. During the recent operations at the Bluff, one and all showed their determination to win.

This is the keynote to success, and, when the time comes, will again ensure fresh honours being won by the Brigade."

Brig.-General R. J. Kentish, D.S.O., assumed Command of the 76th Brigade vice Brig.-General E. St. G. Pratt, D.S.O., invalided.

*April 10th.* 2nd Lieut. W. J. D. Hale appointed Transport Officer vice Lieut. A. J. S. James, appointed Adjutant (with effect from 1st instant).

*18th.* The battalion marched to temporary camp at La Clytte (via Bailleul) for fatigue work on the Vierstraat Switch, under supervision of the 56th company R.E.

*20th.* The battalion marched back to rest billets at Thieu-shouk.

*22nd.* Lieut. H. V. Piercy joined the battalion for duty.

*23rd.* The following message was received :

"The Commander-in-Chief has awarded 2nd Lieutenant A. Nevitt the Military Cross. Please convey to Lieut. Nevitt the Brigadier's, and Brigade Staff's, hearty congratulations."

These congratulations, with the battalion's, were telegraphed to Lieut. Nevitt, in hospital wounded, in London.

The following Officers, from 12th Reserve battalion, joined for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. W. Macaulay, 2nd Lieut. L. P. Vernon, 2nd Lieut. E. W. Edwards, 2nd

Lieut. S. G. Shute, 2nd Lieut. D. J. Williams, 2nd Lieut. H. Page.

*April 24th.* A representative detachment of 50 rank and file, under Command of Captain C. A. R. Follitt, marched to Flêtre, and took part in the ceremonial parade for presentation of the ribbon of the Victoria Cross to Captain the Rev. E. N. Mellish, Chaplain.

*27th.* The battalion marched to Kemmel Shelters, and took over from the 4th battalion East Yorkshire Regiment, in Brigade Reserve.

*28th.* The battalion moved up into the trenches and took over Trenches E.1-E.5 from the 5th battalion Yorkshire Regiment.

Distribution : A, C Coys. and 2 platoons of B, D Coys. in Trenches E.1-E.5 with the remainder of the battalion in Regent Street dug-outs.

2nd Lieut. L. G. Godfrey joined the battalion for duty.

*29th.* At about 9 p.m. two deserters came over to Trench F.2 from the German trenches opposite, and gave warning of a gas attack being imminent. They were sent to Brigade headquarters and all troops were warned, including 1st Gordon Highlanders on the right, North Staffordshire Regiment on the left, machine-gun sections in SP.8 and SP.9 and in Forts Victoria, Edward, and Duprée ; also all trench-mortar batteries, and batteries in rear. All necessary precautions were taken, vermorel sprayers filled, gas-helmets ready for immediate use, rifle bolts, machine-gun actions, and ammunition greased, and two bombs issued to every man.

*30th.* At 12.40 a.m., gas was heard hissing from the cylinders in the German trench opposite, and the gas-cloud was seen. Rapid fire was at once opened, and alarm gongs and horns were sounded in our trenches.

The gas was by far most dense opposite our right at Trench E.1, where the enemy's trench was only 35 yards distant, and here some of our men were gassed before they could get their gas-helmets properly adjusted, but in the main the helmets were perfectly satisfactory. Only at one point did a few Germans enter our trenches, through the gap on our right, into Trench E.3, but they retreated when met by a few of our bombers under Lieut. H. V. Piercy. Supporting platoons moved up from the Regent Street

dug-outs under Captain E. W. Bell and Captain Follitt, and by 1.20 a.m. the gas had cleared and the situation was well in hand. The gas came over in two waves. Regent Street dug-outs, Pall Mall, Piccadilly, were fairly heavily shelled, the barrage being just behind Regent Street dug-outs and the head of Regent Street.

As we had about 25 casualties, and some 50 cases of gas, a company was called for to reinforce the Regent Street dug-outs, and a company to garrison G.H.Q. line at Luiderhock in case the enemy renewed his attack.

When it became light, some enemy dead were seen near their parapet, and two wounded were actually brought into our trench for identification by Captain Follitt and Lieuts. Piercy and O. L. Jones. The efficient fire of our heavy artillery prevented the enemy coming over in any large numbers, their communications being also shelled by our lighter guns.

In the evening, at about 10 o'clock, an alarm of gas was raised, but was found to be a mistake, being due to clouds of smoke from bursting shells and trench-mortar bombs.

It was noticed how extremely difficult it is to know if gas is present or not, when gas-helmets are worn.

During the evening Trench E.5 was taken over by the 1st Gordon Highlanders, we leaving two Lewis guns and detachments and one bombing squad there. Our casualties during 29th and 30th April were :

#### *Killed*

No. 19121 Sergt. H. Hollins  
No. 27397 Pte. J. Fisher  
No. 36266 Pte. C. Shepley

No. 11943 Pte. J. T. Harries  
No. 36238 Pte. F. Horton

#### *Killed by Gas*

No. 23189 Pte. F. Sigley  
No. 15447 Pte. M. Hester

No. 23191 L/Corpl. H. Dudley

#### *Died by Gas*

No. 14190 Corpl. D. H. Sims  
No. 15036 Pte. J. Hughes  
No. 14166 Pte. W. P. Macdonald  
No. 5031 Pte. J. Jones

No. 15329 Pte. A. Melia  
No. 15141 Pte. J. E. Goodwin  
No. 15403 L/Corpl. G. H. Williams

#### *Died of Wounds*

No. 15157 Pte. T. Penny

No. 15273 Pte. D. Michael (when prisoner of war)

*Wounded*

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2nd Lieut. E. Vaughan-Jones  | 2nd Lieut. F. E. Crane          |
| No. 14906 Sergt. J. A. Jones | No. 14967 Pte. J. Roberts       |
| No. 15050 Pte. B. Williams   | No. 23320 Pte. S. F. Davies     |
| No. 15015 Pte. G. Sanders    | No. 15020 Pte. J. Bassett       |
| No. 13808 Pte. T. E. Edwards | No. 24675 Pte. S. Grosvenor     |
| No. 15214 Pte. Ll. Jones     | No. 5906 Pte. R. B. Owen        |
| No. 33456 Pte. D. H. Evans   | No. 36320 Pte. C. E. Evans      |
| No. 4643 Pte. T. Cuffe       | No. 16295 Pte. T. Owen          |
| No. 15710 Pte. J. D. Evans   | No. 6610 Pte. T. Price          |
| No. 15693 Pte. E. J. Evans   | No. 16279 Pte. E. Griffiths     |
| No. 15048 Pte. E. Rees       | No. 15285 L/Corpl. F. H. Bowker |
| No. 15654 Pte. E. Moloney    | No. 15108 Pte. W. H. Peters     |
| No. 15389 Pte. E. Jones      | No. 15515 Pte. H. Rees          |
| No. 24238 Pte. W. Middleton  |                                 |

*From Gas Poison*

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Captain E. W. Bell            | 2nd Lieut. E. W. Edwards      |
| No. 12679 Pte. T. Williams    | No. 23059 Sergt. A. Sproston  |
| No. 15408 Pte. A. E. Lewis    | No. 24915 Pte. P. Kynaston    |
| No. 15013 Pte. T. H. Smith    | No. 23222 Pte. C. H. Taylor   |
| No. 15528 Pte. E. Harris      | No. 23171 Pte. D. E. Jones    |
| No. 14658 Pte. H. Jones       | No. 15231 Pte. R. Roberts     |
| No. 15281 L/Corpl. W. Knott   | No. 15165 Pte. R. Roberts     |
| No. 24779 Pte. G. W. Birchall | No. 14910 Pte. G. Kennedy     |
| No. 23442 Pte. L. Bowen       | No. 15607 Pte. L. Davies      |
| No. 7841 Pte. T. Hawker       | No. 15484 Pte. B. Williams    |
| No. 16282 Pte. W. Roberts     | No. 14904 Pte. G. Coude       |
| No. 8455 Pte. T. Crompton     | No. 15136 Pte. W. Owen        |
| No. 6620 Pte. W. Hart         | No. 36552 Pte. E. W. Berry    |
| No. 15792 Pte. G. Evans       | No. 23427 Pte. C. Smith       |
| No. 23265 Pte. L. Pearson     | No. 15592 Pte. J. Stott       |
| No. 15102 Pte. O. Parry       | No. 23491 Pte. L. N. Wisebeck |
| No. 14666 Pte. C. Williams    | No. 23442 Pte. G. Spencer     |
| No. 5290 Pte. P. S. Tucker    | No. 31841 Corpl. A. W. Jones  |
| No. 15477 Pte. H. J. Roberts  | No. 31759 Pte. E. C. Jones    |

*May 1st.* Two platoons of 2nd Suffolk Regiment reinforced Regent Street dug-outs.

*3rd.* During the day the enemy shelled the battalion's position at intervals, but caused no casualties. After dusk the battalion was relieved by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment and marched out of the trenches to Kemmel Shelter.

*4th.* A draft of 17 rank and file joined the battalion.

*5th.* A draft of 13 rank and file joined the battalion.

The following congratulatory messages were received with reference to the operations of 29th-30th April:

From Brig.-General Commanding 76th Brigade: "The

Brigadier wishes to convey to the battalion his keen appreciation of the soldierly qualities displayed by all ranks during the action which commenced at 12.45 a.m. and finished at 3 a.m.

The enemy attempted to penetrate our lines, but failed miserably. Their failure must be attributed to the splendid fighting spirit of the 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers. The Corps Commander personally visited the Brigadier to-day and expressed his admiration of the conduct of the battalion.

The Brigadier is confident that so long as this spirit exists, the 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers will continue to add to its already splendid fighting reputation."

From Brig.-General Commanding 76th Brigade : "The Army Commander has just visited Brigade Headquarters for the special purpose of expressing his satisfaction with the conduct of all ranks of the battalion on the night of 29th-30th April. He considers the men withstood their first experience of gas in a manner which was highly creditable to them, and he wishes you to make known to them his admiration of their conduct."

Extract from 3rd Division Orders, dated 2nd May, 1916 : "The Major-General Commanding notes with satisfaction that, owing to the careful manner in which the instructions regarding measures to be taken in case of gas attacks were attended to, and also to the good discipline of the 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers which was subjected to gas fumes in the early morning of 30th April, the casualties were comparatively few.

As he has frequently pointed out, there is little to fear when the enemy attempts to surprise us in this manner, provided the proper precautions are taken, and that this is so was proved by the 10th Royal Welch Fusiliers, the first troops of the 3rd Division which have been subjected to a gas attack."

*May 6th.* The following were presented with "white cards" issued by the General Officer Commanding 3rd Division, in recognition of their conspicuous gallantry in action : No. 24891 Corpl. H. Hussey, No. ——— Pte. — Lloyd.

*9th.* The following messages were received from the Army and Corps Commanders : "The Army Commander

has gone carefully into the various reports furnished in connection with the recent gas attack on the front of the 3rd and 24th Divisions, and he wishes Commanders of Formations to convey to the Units in that area his appreciation of the steadiness and courage displayed by all ranks, whereby the enemy failed to gain any advantage from gas emission."

"The Corps Commander wishes to express his appreciation of the high soldierly qualities shown by all ranks under the very trying circumstances."

*May 12th.* Extract from 3rd Division Routine Orders, No. 701 :

The Major-General Commanding has great pleasure in announcing the following rewards given for distinguished gallantry in action on 30th April.

Captain C. A. R. Follitt, The Military Cross.

No. 15514 Pte. J. Lloyd, The Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 15313 A/Company Sergt.-Major E. Roberts, The Military Medal.

No. 15483 L/Corpl. A. E. Polin, The Military Medal.

*13th.* The General Officer Commanding 3rd Division presented the above Officer and N.C.O.s with the ribbons of their respective decorations on battalion parade.

The battalion marched out of camp at Kemmel Shelter and moved into the trenches. A draft of 106 rank and file joined the battalion.

*14th.* The enemy bombarded the trenches with trench-mortars, to which our artillery retaliated with 4.5 howitzer shells.

Casualties—killed : No. 14930 Pte. E. Pritchard ; wounded : No. 11228 Pte. I. Williams, No. 11932 Pte. R. Jones, No. 15170 Pte. W. Lever.

*15th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 23327 Pte. A. Liggins.

*16th.* The Battalion Headquarters moved into Regent Street dug-out.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. W. C. Wells, 2nd Lieut. W. A. Cowie, 2nd Lieut. J. E. Hughes. Nine cadets were attached to the battalion for instruction in trench duties.

Casualties—died of wounds : No. 6323 Pte. T. Bridges.



## 34 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

*May 17th.* The enemy bombarded Trench F.2 with trench-mortars and shelled Pall Mall and Wind Street trenches.

A gas alarm was sounded late at night, but proved to be a false one.

*18th.* Captain J. A. B. Spencer joined the battalion for duty.

Casualties—wounded : No. 5373 L/Corpl. M. Toohey.

*19th.* At 9 a.m. the enemy bombarded Trenches F.2, Pall Mall, and Piccadilly with trench-mortars. Our artillery retaliated at 9.15 a.m., and silenced the enemy for the rest of the day.

*20th.* The battalion, on relief by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, marched into billets in the Divisional Reserve at Locre.

*22nd.* The following messages were received :

From Officer Commanding 1st battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers. "We are all very proud of the splendid record of the 10th battalion, which has in every way maintained the great record of the Regiment. Your Division Commander a little time ago told me the 10th battalion had done splendidly at the 'Bluff.' I am publishing your extract in our Battalion Orders. All good wishes from us all, and may the two battalions meet soon."

From Officer Commanding 2nd battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers. "Many thanks for extract from Battalion Orders. I have had it reproduced in ours. The 2nd battalion are proud and gratified to know that the 10th battalion are so worthily upholding the traditions of the Royal Welch Fusiliers."

From Officer Commanding 12th (Reserve) battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers. "All ranks of 12th battalion send hearty congratulations to all ranks of 10th battalion on their recent success at the Front."

*23rd.* A draft of 10 rank and file were taken on the strength.

*26th.* The battalion, on relief by the 4th battalion East Yorks Regiment, marched from Locre into the Vth Corps rest area near Thieushouk, in Corps Reserve.

*27th.* A draft of 100 rank and file arrived from the 1st Garrison battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers, at Gibraltar.

*May 29th.* A draft of 19 rank and file arrived.

*June 5th.* The battalion marched from Thieushouk and took over billets from the 18th battalion Liverpool Regiment, between Meteren and Bailleul.

Lieut. J. W. Blackstone (Welsh Yeomanry T.F.) joined for duty as special Transport Officer.

*8th.* The following was published in General Orders by command of His Majesty : " The King has learnt, with profound regret, of the disaster by which the Secretary of State for War has lost his life while proceeding on a special Mission to the Emperor of Russia. Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener gave 45 years of distinguished service to the State, and it is largely due to his administrative genius and unswerving energy that the country has been able to create, and place in the Field, the Armies which are to-day upholding the traditional glories of our Empire.

Lord Kitchener will be mourned by the Army as a great soldier, who, under conditions of unexampled difficulty, rendered supreme and devoted service both to the Army and the State."

*11th.* The battalion, in Brigade (less two battalions), marched into billets at Hardefort, near Cassel.

*12th.* The battalion marched into billets in area of Lederzeele.

*13th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched into billets in the training area at Eperlecques.

*14th.* A draft of 14 rank and file arrived and were taken on the strength, and 2nd Lieut. L. Williams joined the battalion for duty.

*15th.* A draft of 26 rank and file joined the battalion.

*21st.* Company Sergt.-Major W. Webb (2nd Suffolk Regiment) was appointed Acting Regimental Sergt.-Major.

*23rd.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. W. A. Bouette, 2nd Lieut. J. F. Dale.

*July 1st.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to St. Omer and entrained.

*2nd.* The battalion detrained at Doullens at 2 a.m., and later marched into billets at Gezaincourt.

At night, A and D Coys., with the battalion Medical Officer, assisted at the Casualty Clearing Station.

## 36 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

*July 3rd.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched into billets at Naours.

*4th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched at 9 p.m. to Rainneville and billeted there at 1 a.m., 4th-5th.

*5th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched at 9 p.m. to Franvillers, getting into billets at 1 a.m., 5th-6th.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment: 2nd Lieut. O. E. Thomas, 2nd Lieut. J. Thomson, 2nd Lieut. W. S. Wynne-Williams, 2nd Lieut. G. H. Jennings, 2nd Lieut. A. B. Brotherton.

*6th.* The battalion marched at 9 p.m. and went into bivouac in Bois Celestine at 2 a.m.

A draft of 15 rank and file joined the battalion.

*7th.* The battalion marched at 4.15 p.m. and went into bivouac at Bronfay Farm, near Carnoy.

*8th.* A reconnoitring party, under 2nd Lieut. L. G. Godfrey, was sent out.

*9th.* The battalion carrying party suffered the following casualties:

### *Killed*

No. 18267 Corpl. J. H. Mullins

### *Died of Wounds*

No. 15182 Pte. O. Griffiths

### *Wounded*

|                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 14643 Sergt. R. Carr        | No. 15159 L/Corpl. D. Rees     |
| No. 15231 Pte. R. Roberts       | No. 14968 L/Corpl. J. Jones    |
| No. 15293 Pte. W. Rowlands      | No. 15031 L/Corpl. D. Williams |
| No. 29476 Pte. D. Jones         | No. 34054 Pte. W. J. Brown     |
| No. 14967 Pte. J. Roberts       | No. 36831 Pte. W. O. Davies    |
| No. 34153 Pte. E. J. Thomas     | No. 34084 Pte. A. Edwards      |
| No. 12421 Pte. T. G. Hughes     | No. 33814 Pte. W. Ryan         |
| No. 29584 Pte. D. G. J. Watkins | No. 23688 Pte. W. Greatorix    |
| No. 31014 Pte. G. E. Lewis      | No. 29583 Pte. H. Jones        |
| No. 31401 Pte. T. A. Prosser    | No. 15024 Pte. D. Williams     |
| No. 23326 Pte. J. Morris        | No. 23220 Pte. S. R. Davies    |
| No. 15037 Pte. C. J. Wood       | No. 37456 Pte. D. Lloyd        |

*10th.* The following congratulatory messages were received:

From Fourth Army. "The Commander-in-Chief has directed the Army Commander to express to you his great satisfaction at the way patrols have carried out their work in your Corps during the past few days."

From 76th Brigade. "The Brigadier-General wishes you to convey to the Officers, N.C.O.s, and men forming your permanent carrying party, his appreciation of the good work done, which has been reported to him by his Staff. The Brigadier-General wishes you also to inform the Officers, N.C.O.s, and men, who composed the patrol which went out last night, that he is exceedingly pleased with the information they brought in."

*July 11th.* The battalion moved the position of its bivouacs.

*12th.* The battalion twice moved the position of its bivouacs.

Casualties—wounded : No. 23262 Pte. J. Sloan.

*13th.* Orders were received that the 76th Brigade, instead of attacking on the right of the position towards Longueval, were to be placed in Divisional Reserve.

In the afternoon the Brigade received orders to take up position in the captured front and support lines, and in Montauban Alley.

The battalion took up its position in Breslau front and support trenches, E. of Carnoy-Montauban Road.

Disposition : B Coy. in front, A Coy. on right, D Coy. on left, C Coy. and Specialist Coy. in rear.

*14th.* The attack was timed to commence at 3.25 a.m., and at 3.20 a.m. the bombardment became intense, the whole front being lit up by the bursting shells.

At 3.25 a.m. the troops advanced, and shortly afterwards it was known that the Divisional attack had been successful throughout. At dawn a steady stream of prisoners and wounded moved down the Carnoy-Montauban Road, all unwounded German prisoners being utilized as stretcher bearers.

At 8.45 a.m. the battalion moved forward and took over the section of Montauban Alley previously held by the 1st Gordon Highlanders, who, with the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) advanced to Caterpillar Valley and commenced to dig themselves in.

The battalion moved across the open by platoons in single file ; at one point some delay and congestion occurred through another battalion crossing our line of advance, and here there was hostile shell fire, but the battalion was able

to get cover in Loop Trench. By the time the battalion got into position in Montauban Alley the situation was quiet, and men of the 8th and 9th Brigades could be seen walking about in the captured area.

Here the troops had the great satisfaction of seeing some of our cavalry pass through our lines and attack the enemy, inflicting some casualties before they were held up and compelled to retire.

The 1st and 2nd battalions Royal Welch Fusiliers were close to the battalion.

Casualties—wounded : No. 15427 Pte. M. Hughes, No. 23498 Pte. C. Furnival.

*July 15th.* The battalion remained in Montauban Alley.

Casualties—wounded : No. 36055 Pte. H. Bourne, No. 33057 Pte. E. Wilkinson, No. 27275 Pte. L. Stembridge, No. 7841 Pte. T. Hawker.

The following congratulatory messages were received :

General Officer Commanding 9th Division to General Officer Commanding 3rd Division. "I wish to express my thanks for all the excellent arrangements for yesterday's operations, handed over by the 76th Brigade. They are largely responsible for the smooth working of the operations."

From General Officer Commanding 3rd Division to General Officer Commanding 76th Brigade. "Although your Brigade was in Reserve yesterday, the words of the Corps Commander, published in 3rd Division A/7866 dated 15/7/16, apply to all ranks in your Brigade, as it was their energy and forethought in making the preliminary arrangements, which made possible the successful deployment, and attack, of the 27th Brigade."

From Lieut.-General Commanding XIIIth Corps to General Officer Commanding 3rd Division. "The success of your deployment and advance yesterday morning can only have resulted from very good Staff work, and discipline in battalions. Will you tell your Staff, and that of Brigades, how greatly I appreciate their work, and that of your Brigadiers, Commanding Officers, and other ranks of the 3rd Division? I doubt if the assembly of two Corps by night, close to the entrenched line of an active enemy, has ever been before so successfully done."

From General Officer Commanding 3rd Division. "The

Assistant Provost Marshal of the Division reports that, in the action of yesterday, not a single straggler of the Division passed through any of his collecting-stations. Although this is as it should be, still the G.O.C. publishes the fact with pride as showing that the efforts that have been made to strengthen the discipline and soldierly spirit of the Division, have borne excellent fruit on a day when they were highly tried."

*July 16th.* The battalion in Montauban Alley-High Wood was evacuated by us, the position being too advanced.

Casualties—wounded : No. 17331 Pte. T. Murphy.

*18th.* The battalion moved forward to Sunken Road (leading from Montauban to Caterpillar Valley) and took over the trenches originally commenced by the 8th battalion The King's Own, and 1st Gordon Highlanders.

*19th.* At 4 p.m. the battalion was ordered to move immediately to its original area in Breslau front and support trenches. There was some amount of hostile shelling and one man was killed and four were wounded.

At 8.45 p.m. the following information as to the situation, and orders for ensuing attack, were issued from Brigade Headquarters.

Tactical appreciation. That the line Prince's Street was held by us, and the front of the enemy's position, allotted to the battalion to attack, extended from the Strand to the east edge of Delville Wood. This was to be consolidated, and connection established with the 2nd Suffolk Regiment.

Guides. Would meet the battalion at S.22-d.8.2 (Sheet Montauban) to lead to the south edge of the wood, where other guides would be available for the battalion, on to the line of deployment.

That there was to be a slow bombardment of the wood all night which would become intense at 3.20 a.m.

That the attack would take place at 3.35 a.m., in which the 2nd Suffolk Regiment would take part, attacking from the west. It was left to the discretion of the Commanding Officer to attack at 3.45 a.m. if he considered this advisable in order to allow the 2nd Suffolk Regiment attack to develop. The battalion to be at the rendezvous at 11.30 p.m.

The following Battalion Orders were issued :

Three companies will deploy behind the line Prince's Street, each company on a 200 yard frontage.

B Coy. (Captain G. P. Blake) on the right, D Coy. (Lieut. Piercy) in the centre, C Coy. (Captain G. D. Scale) on the left, A Coy. (Captain C. P. C. Daniel), reserve of bombers (Lieut. D. T. Williams), 4 Lewis guns (Lieut. W. G. Daniel), all in reserve. One Vickers gun, and 76th Brigade Machine-gun Company team, were attached to B Coy. to protect the right flank. Battalion to parade at 10 p.m.

The battalion arrived without casualties at the first rendezvous. From this point the battalion moved across country about midnight, 19th-20th by compass bearing. While still below the last crest, heavy machine-gun fire opened to our front, and a certain amount of shell-fire.

It was decided not to get into "artillery formation," the risk of losing connection in the darkness, and so endangering the success of the whole operations, being too great. During the twenty minutes waiting here two Officers and several rank and file became casualties.

The enemy's fire having diminished to a certain extent, the battalion moved forward, and, although experiencing some slight difficulties owing to shell-holes, a trench, and some French wire, met the guides for the wood at a point close to its south-west corner, were led east along South Street in single file, and then north by west up the side of Buchanan Street, which was held by the South African Contingent.

At this point our troubles commenced, for, although apparent that we were nowhere near the line of Prince's Street, we were met by a considerable amount of rifle fire, and short bursts of machine-gun fire. "Very" lights went up a short distance to our front, and the Germans were heard shouting all over the wood.

The guide maintained that the battalion was close to Prince's Street, but this evidently could not be, as the advance, at the most, was 150 yards from the South edge of the wood.

To deploy appeared to be the only possible course, so a compass bearing was taken, and a star selected due east for the leader of the deployment to march upon. Captain

Blake, Captain Follitt, and 2nd Lieut. Godfrey advanced on this point of direction followed by B Coy., the intention being that 2nd Lieut. Godfrey should halt after 200 yards advance, to mark the right flank of C Coy.; Captain Follitt to halt after 400 yards advance, to mark the right flank of D Coy.; Captain Blake to advance to the east edge of the wood. Companies would then halt, turn to their left, and extend back to the Officers marking their flanks.

B Coy. had moved about 100 yards along the line of deployment when the Germans appeared, advancing, sending up "Very" lights, and shouting, but B Coy. firing steadily, repulsed them.

The battalion had to lie down for some time to avoid machine-gun fire, and the men remained steady in spite of the trying circumstances, it being evident that the Germans were attacking in force, or were aware that our troops were being deployed for an attack.

After this a further deployment of 200 yards was effected, the progress of which was checked by machine-gun fire from right and rear. At this point another attack was threatened by the Germans in large numbers, which was more difficult to contend with, but, owing to the steadiness of all ranks, they were repulsed with loss.

In order to avoid machine-gun fire, the deployment direction was now changed to south of east. Here "Very" lights went up a short distance to our front, and no reply was given to Captain Follitt's challenge, machine-gun and rifle fire being opened.

This checked all further deployment and necessitated the advance at the fixed hour, being carried out on the restricted front.

*July 20th.* It was now 2.42 a.m., and orders were issued to dig in. At 3.30 a.m. intimation was received that the attack would begin at 3.45 a.m. instead of 3.35 a.m., this being done in hopes that the development of the attack by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment would relieve the pressure on the battalion.

At 3.45 a.m. the attack commenced. C Coy., on the left, met with heavy machine-gun fire and bombs, and were held up, but being rallied they were led forward by Captain G. D. Scale until level with the rest of the battalion.



Owing to heavy casualties, both Officers and men, and the resultant lack of co-operation, it became impossible for the advance to continue and the line had to be withdrawn, fighting going on in isolated groups.

On returning, the more advanced groups reported that German reinforcements were advancing in the back of the wood.

After daylight our advanced parties suffered heavily from snipers, and were eventually compelled to withdraw to the line partly held by the Berkshire Regiment, the Essex Regiment, and the machine-gun company of the 53rd Brigade. In co-operation with the latter the remainder of the machine-gun company of the 76th Brigade were placed in position.

From this time onward the battalion was on the defensive and dug in, a mixed platoon under Sergt. Pettifer being sent to our right to reinforce the Essex Regiment.

After nightfall, orders were received for the relief of all details of battalions holding the wood (with exception of a battalion, Norfolk Regiment) by the 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers. This relief was carried out by 3.26 a.m., the incoming battalion losing heavily.

The battalion, after relief, returned to its original position in the Breslau trenches. The following were the casualties on 19th and 20th July :

*Killed in Action*

|                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Captain G. P. Blake             | Captain G. D. Scale        |
| 2nd Lieut. L. G. Godfrey        | 2nd Lieut. H. Page         |
| No. 15372 Sergt. R. J. Roberts  | No. 17772 Pte. J. Burgess  |
| No. 15516 Sergt. F. Diver       | No. 8363 Pte. C. Bullock   |
| No. 15266 Corpl. T. F. Ellis    | No. 17226 Pte. J. Craven   |
| No. 17688 Corpl. R. O. Davies   | No. 25181 Pte. W. Jones    |
| No. 13009 L/Corpl. J. G. Evans  | No. 31377 Pte. T. A. Jones |
| No. 40459 L/Corpl. J. L. Davies | No. 5664 Pte. J. Johnson   |
| No. 7842 L/Sergt. T. Dunford    | No. 15654 Pte. E. Malone   |
| No. 23436 Pte. E. Holland       | No. 16755 Pte. W. Neave    |
| No. 29579 Pte. W. J. Pritchard  | No. 26184 Pte. E. J. Owen  |
| No. 13188 Pte. D. J. Rees       | No. 36664 Pte. J. Puffer   |
| No. 15364 Pte. G. F. Pierce     | No. 34598 Pte. R. Stilton  |
| No. 15342 Pte. H. Burgess       | No. 15592 Pte. J. Stott    |
| No. 14237 Pte. H. Owen          | No. 15619 Pte. T. Walters  |
| No. 36663 Pte. P. Rogers        | No. 15720 Pte. P. Evans    |
| No. 15509 Pte. S. J. Arthurs    | No. 15668 Pte. J. Linham   |
| No. 12192 Pte. H. Booker        | No. 40142 Pte. O. Roberts  |
| No. 6548 Pte. J. Thompson       |                            |

*Died of Wounds*

No. 26578 Pte. J. Phillpot

No. 36120 Pte. W. Windridge

*Wounded*

Captain C. P. C. Daniell

Lieut. A. W. Fish

2nd Lieut. W. A. Bouette

2nd Lieut. W. G. Daniel

2nd Lieut. F. J. Dale

2nd Lieut. W. A. Cowie (shell shock)

Lieut. D. T. Williams

Lieut. V. H. Piercy

2nd Lieut. W. Macaulay

2nd Lieut. O. L. Jones

2nd Lieut. W. C. Wells

No. 15313 Coy. Sergt.-Major E. Roberts (also reported missing)

No. 14662 Sergt. Griffiths

No. 15643 Sergt. N. Edwards

No. 5732 Sergt. D. J. Lewis

No. 16027 Sergt. J. Holl

No. 15413 Sergt. J. W. Bridle

No. 15405 Corpl. R. N. Phillips

No. 15564 Corpl. P. Davies

No. 19644 Corpl. J. Ricketts

No. 15504 Corpl. G. H. Hughes

No. 31578 Corpl. J. John

No. 16119 Corpl. D. Lord

No. 15690 Corpl. J. Phillips

No. 15791 Corpl. A. Punchard

No. 6225 Corpl. R. Batchelor

No. 31499 L/Corpl. Jeffers

No. 15409 L/Corpl. W. J. Tyson

No. 15291 L/Corpl. J. Trivett

No. 33662 L/Corpl. H. Jarvis

No. 23172 L/Corpl. H. Thomas

No. 15603 L/Corpl. F. Brierley

No. 31306 L/Corpl. J. Morgan

No. 15090 L/Corpl. W. C.

Williams

No. 40151 L/Corpl. R. Evans

No. 15483 L/Corpl. E. A. Polin

No. 15367 L/Corpl. T. S. Brearley

No. 15684 L/Corpl. T. Hull

No. 36483 L/Corpl. A. Huckvale

No. 34060 Pte. D. Wile

No. 34797 Pte. W. A. Blackman

No. 16454 Pte. Dobbie

No. 35056 Pte. F. J. Dixon

No. 15146 Pte. G. Evans

No. 25798 Pte. H. Lewis

No. 36689 Pte. F. Davies

No. 13603 Pte. W. Dunkley

No. 34229 Pte. R. Jones

No. 15402 Pte. J. Ames

No. 34649 Pte. A. Lindsay

No. 40463 Pte. R. G. Jones

No. 10347 Pte. G. Quinney

No. 15171 Pte. J. H. Davies (shell shock)

No. 15138 Pte. R. Edwards

No. 33600 Pte. R. Power

No. 23438 Pte. W. Haywood

No. 34121 Pte. S. Saunders

No. 23306 Pte. M. Phillips

No. 15012 Pte. W. A. Jones

No. 25188 Pte. E. Roberts

No. 15537 Pte. E. Jones

No. 29606 Pte. W. T. Jones

No. 23417 Pte. C. Fear

No. 15361 Pte. C. T. Rossiter

No. 14988 Pte. O. Thomas

No. 14934 Pte. R. Pritchard

No. 14984 Pte. T. W. Jones

No. 5673 Pte. A. E. Jones

No. 36600 Pte. R. Evans

No. 34696 Pte. J. Jones

No. 15212 Pte. P. Jones

No. 14825 Pte. W. Jones

No. 15351 Pte. J. Peters

No. 40474 Pte. M. Jones

No. 23302 Pte. J. France

No. 33640 Pte. T. Arnold

No. 23212 Pte. J. Bedson

No. 13649 Pte. F. Brydges

No. 23310 Pte. A. Campion

No. 33677 Pte. T. Clayton

No. 15801 Pte. W. Clayton

No. 33696 Pte. F. Day

No. 40086 Pte. J. E. Davies

No. 40370 Pte. D. H. Davies

No. 16149 Pte. D. E. Edwards

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 33715 Pte. J. Foster    | No. 15503 Pte. W. Humphrey      |
| No. 15666 Pte. T. Lewis     | No. 25339 Pte. A. C. Jones      |
| No. 34637 Pte. H. Mansfield | No. 15488 Pte. R. E. Jones      |
| No. 40315 Pte. W. P. Parry  | No. 25385 Pte. D. Jones         |
| No. 33824 Pte. J. Rogers    | No. 15223 Pte. O. Jones         |
| No. 23427 Pte. C. Smith     | No. 31817 Pte. J. H. Jones      |
| No. 15096 Pte. A. S. Lloyd  | No. 15638 Pte. W. Jones         |
| No. 34096 Pte. R. Hurdley   | No. 31826 Pte. C. Johnson       |
| No. 37234 Pte. H. Jones     | No. 36516 Pte. W. Jackman       |
| No. 36396 Pte. J. Beddison  | No. 23228 Pte. E. H. Kitchen    |
| No. 23463 Pte. J. Gardner   | No. 34774 Pte. J. C. Keith      |
| No. 23423 Pte. F. Green     | No. 15514 Pte. J. Lloyd         |
| No. 34786 Pte. J. C. Howard | No. 27235 Pte. R. Parry         |
| No. 16177 Pte. J. O. Jones  | No. 15517 Pte. J. Roberts       |
| No. 17310 Pte. E. Liptrott  | No. 15515 Pte. H. Rees          |
| No. 16279 Pte. P. O'Neill   | No. 36530 Pte. C. Street        |
| No. 16295 Pte. T. Owen      | No. 36424 Pte. R. Thomas        |
| No. 15641 Pte. R. Brodie    | No. 40362 Pte. F. Williams      |
| No. 36237 Pte. C. Crawford  | No. 33387 Pte. J. Roberts       |
| No. 31875 Pte. A. Crump     | No. 33819 Pte. P. Raynor        |
| No. 36287 Pte. B. Chadwick  | No. 27219 Pte. W. Dominey       |
| No. 34721 Pte. C. E. Copley | No. 37780 Pte. T. M. Williams   |
| No. 36897 Pte. A. Dance     | No. 26576 Pte. A. Sugars        |
| No. 4379 Pte. M. Doubler    | No. 15685 Pte. G. Laity         |
| No. 15438 Pte. W. J. Evans  | No. 15197 Pte. E. Hollingsworth |
| No. 36662 Pte. D. Frew      | No. 15719 Corpl. J. Wright (who |
| No. 23245 Pte. G. Goodwin   | was later reported Prisoner-    |
| No. 19126 Pte. W. Green     | of-War)                         |
| No. 15501 Pte. H. Hughes    |                                 |

*Shell Shock*

|                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| No. 33800 Pte. E. J. Powell | No. 23442 Pte. G. Spencer |
| No. 15724 Pte. T. W. Lloyd  | No. 5608 Pte. J. Greening |

*Missing—Reported Killed in Action*

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 15785 Sergt. E. Jackson | No. 16117 Pte. T. F. Davies |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

*Missing*

|                                        |                              |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 16051 Coy. Sergt.-Major G. Jones   | No. 5906 Pte. R. B. Owen     |
| No. 15278 L/Sergt. J. Smith            | No. 22180 Pte. F. W. Jones   |
| No. 14672 Corpl. M. Williams           | No. 36058 Pte. B. Walters    |
| No. 16297 L/Corpl. R. Williams         | No. 33799 Pte. A. Plaster    |
| No. 23480 L/Corpl. W. Jones            | No. 34321 Pte. F. McDonnell  |
| No. 33685 L/Corpl. W. A. Dean          | No. 33682 Pte. S. L. Durbin  |
| No. 9741 L/Corpl. C. Shephard          | No. 24299 Pte. J. Rhodes     |
| No. 36343 L/Corpl. J. H. Ros-<br>tance | No. 10766 Pte. R. Jones      |
| No. 12915 Pte. E. O. Edwards           | No. 34957 Pte. H. Gower      |
| No. 14910 Pte. G. Kennedy              | No. 15383 Pte. J. Carroll    |
|                                        | No. 4697 Pte. R. Wynne       |
|                                        | No. 21939 Pte. J. H. L. Rees |

*Missing—(cont.)*

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 24810 Pte. J. Hill        | No. 31816 Pte. T. Brindley    |
| No. 14666 Pte. C. Williams    | No. 8931 Pte. T. Colohan      |
| No. 24779 Pte. G. W. Birchall | No. 26626 Pte. W. C. Dean     |
| No. 24407 Pte. J. Cartwright  | No. 13679 Pte. T. Derry       |
| No. 40374 Pte. D. Evans       | No. 23320 Pte. T. Green       |
| No. 40413 Pte. O. H. Hughes   | No. 17251 Pte. W. Hughes      |
| No. 36826 Pte. G. P. Jones    | No. 33776 Pte. C. Morgan      |
| No. 40366 Pte. T. C. Jones    | No. 40095 Pte. R. J. Owen     |
| No. 23980 Pte. G. Lewis       | No. 40167 Pte. J. Roberts     |
| No. 36976 Pte. I. J. Morris   | No. 24490 Pte. J. G. Shaw     |
| No. 36366 Pte. W. G. Piercy   | No. 40174 Pte. A. Thomas      |
| No. 34104 Pte. J. Regan       | No. 18370 Pte. E. T. Williams |
| No. 12285 Pte. C. Thongs      |                               |

The following casualties occurred in Breslau Trenches—wounded : No. 15198 Pte. G. Williams, No. 15366 Pte. L. Roberts ; shell shock : No. 34187 Pte. H. Craze.

*July 21st.* Lieut. J. H. L. Glasbrook joined the battalion for duty.

*22nd.* A Coy. furnished a party of 60 men to carry rations to the 1st Gordon Highlanders in the advanced trenches.

2nd Lieut. E. Dixon joined the battalion for duty.

*23rd.* A working and carrying party of 300 of all ranks proceeded to Delville Wood and Longueval with the East Riding and 56th Coys., R.E., and sustained the following casualties—wounded : 2nd Lieut. J. Thompson, No. 15209 L/Corpl. W. D. Howarth, No. 33560 Pte. J. Lewis, No. 37781 Pte. D. R. Jones, No. 15366 Pte. L. Roberts, No. 37456 Pte. D. Lloyd, No. 33609 Pte. T. Kellett, No. 23184 Pte. J. Bailey, No. 31401 Pte. T. A. Prosser.

*24th.* The battalion in Breslau Trenches. Intense shelling took place along Montauban Alley and about Montauban.

*25th.* The battalion was relieved by the 17th battalion Middlesex Regiment and marched to camp at Bois-de-Tailles.

*27th.* A draft of 50 rank and file joined the battalion.

*28th.* The battalion marched into billets at Méricourt l'Abbé.

*30th.* A draft of 53 rank and file joined the battalion.

*31st.* The following telegram from Lieut.-General Commanding Fourth Army-(Sir Henry Rawlinson, Bt., K.C.B.,

K.C.V.O.) to General Officer Commanding 3rd Division was published : " Please convey to all ranks of the 3rd Division my sincere thanks and admiration for their very gallant behaviour since they joined the Fourth Army. Their attack on the Longueval Ridge on 14th July will go down to history as a feat of arms of which every Officer and man of the Division may well feel proud. Their defence of Longueval Village and Delville Wood, under very heavy and incessant bombardment, is yet another proof of their gallantry and determination."

A draft of 97 rank and file joined the battalion.

*August 5th.* Working parties of 200 men from each battalion in the Brigade, the whole under Major F. A. Samuel, dug support lines near Montauban.

*7th.* Brig.-General C. J. Deverell took over Command of the 3rd Division.

*9th.* A working party of 1 Officer and 30 other ranks were employed building cages for German prisoners.

*11th.* The battalion marched at 3 p.m. to " Sand-pits " near Méaulte.

Lieut. M. Murray rejoined the battalion for duty.

*14th.* The battalion marched at 6 p.m., en route for Talus-Bois. A temporary halt was made at Minden Post as the enemy was shelling Carnoy Valley. The remainder of the march had to be by platoons at 50-yard intervals ; there was considerable congestion of troops, and the battalion did not get into the Talus-Bois Trenches till late.

*15th.* A draft of 43 rank and file joined the battalion, with the following Officers posted for duty : 2nd Lieut. A. O. Williams, 2nd Lieut. S. J. Thomas, 2nd Lieut. H. D. Evans.

*16th.* The battalion moved into the Casement and Dublin Trenches, starting at 8.30 a.m. In the afternoon A and D Coys. moved to Chimpanzee Trench, also two consolidation sections of C Coy.

Casualties—killed : 3 ; wounded 4 (names included in casualty lists, 17th–19th August).

*17th.* In the afternoon instructions were received for an attack on Lonely Trench by two companies of the battalion, in conjunction with two companies of a battalion of the 9th Brigade.

At 5 p.m. the following were issued to the attacking troops: flares, smoke bombs, tools, wire-cutters, white bands.

At 8 p.m. the two companies (B and C) moved off, led by specially detailed guides, accompanied by the Brigade-Major 76th Brigade (Major J. W. Skipwith). The Commanding Officer and Adjutant came in rear of the two companies with the headquarter company and battalion machine-gun reserve.

After proceeding some distance up French Trench, a heavy barrage was put on, and the order came down that the column must move back. This was then countermanded and the Adjutant was sent forward to see that it was carried out. After a delay of half an hour the two companies got into the front line, and were in position by 9.30 p.m. Orders were then given for the men to move forward to the tape, and this was completed at 9.57 p.m.

On our left flank were the two companies of the 12th battalion West Yorks Regiment.

At 10 p.m. the attacking companies advanced out of their trenches for the attack. During the advance the hostile machine-gun fire did not appear to be very heavy, nor did many casualties come back for some time.

Shortly before 11 p.m. the left company was reported to be held up within 15 yards of the German trench, so a platoon of the 8th battalion The King's Own was sent to reinforce. A working party was now ordered to dig a trench on the tape alignment.

The projected attack being abortive, orders were issued that a fresh attack should be organized, and it was arranged that it should commence at 4 a.m.

*August 18th.* At 5.52 a.m. information was received that the second attack had also failed, and the attacking troops were then withdrawn. Throughout the morning our front was shelled in a desultory manner by hostile 5-9 howitzers.

During the afternoon, and at dusk, the enemy's shelling was heavy and accurate, and battalion headquarters had to be constantly moved.

At 2.45 p.m., in conjunction with the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders, B and C Coys. advanced, C Coy.

## 48 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

suffering severe casualties from the hostile machine-gun fire, as soon as they topped the parapet. This being noticed, two platoons of the supporting company of the 7th battalion King's Shropshire L.I. were sent to join in the attack.

*August 19th.* The battalion was withdrawn at 5 a.m., after relief by the 7th battalion King's Shropshire L.I. and 9th Brigade Machine-gun Company, in the trenches.

Before this relief was carried out, parties were extended over the ground where the attack had passed, to collect the wounded.

The battalion moved to Chimpanzee Trench, and later to the transport lines, above Minden Post.

The following casualties occurred during the period 17th-19th August :

### *Killed in Action*

|                                       |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2nd Lieut. J. E. Hughes               | 2nd Lieut. L. Williams           |
| 2nd Lieut. E. Dixon                   | 2nd Lieut. A. O. Williams        |
| No. 15522 Coy. Sergt.-Major J. Clarke | No. 39178 Pte. J. Roberts        |
| No. 16048 Sergt. E. Griffiths         | No. 23455 Pte. T. Fearn          |
| No. 24891 Corpl. H. Hussey            | No. 23916 Pte. W. E. Phillbrick  |
| No. 22800 Corpl. G. Murphy            | No. 21495 Pte. S. Willcock       |
| No. 15175 Pte. J. R. Ballard          | No. 22762 Pte. J. Rolfe          |
| No. 34175 Pte. J. Lewis               | No. 39779 Pte. H. V. Pettitt     |
| No. 15722 Sergt. W. S. Jones          | No. 15367 Pte. M. Williams       |
| No. 17319 Sergt. W. H. Moore          | No. 32515 Pte. E. Atherton       |
| No. 15087 L/Corpl. T. J. Bunnell      | No. 23494 Pte. E. Heath          |
| No. 35405 L/Corpl. G. Moon            | No. 15464 Pte. H. Hughes         |
| No. 27782 L/Corpl. G. Ashby           | No. 39331 Pte. T. Holland        |
| No. 15015 Pte. G. Sanders             | No. 15640 Pte. T. Jones          |
| No. 23114 Pte. C. Thomas              | No. 23465 Pte. F. Cook           |
| No. 15058 Pte. W. Williams            | No. 24488 Pte. R. Hughes         |
| No. 13553 Pte. P. Williams            | No. 17603 Pte. P. Williams       |
| No. 33219 Pte. A. Butterton           | No. 15216 Pte. H. Morris         |
| No. 33535 Pte. J. Healey              | No. 26252 Pte. D. Sides          |
| No. 33348 Pte. R. Hughes              | No. 16049 L/Corpl. W. H. Manning |

### *Died of Wounds*

|                             |                                                       |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Captain C. A. R. Follitt    | Lieut. S. F. Bancroft (reported missing, then killed) |
| No. 8943 L/Corpl. M. Hughes | No. 21578 L/Corpl. R.W. Hughes                        |
| No. 14649 Pte. J. H. Jones  | No. 15459 Pte. J. Dade                                |
| No. 15471 Pte. J. Jones     | No. 39135 Pte. B. Owen                                |

*Wounded*

|                                          |                                    |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lieut. W. J. D. Hale                     | 2nd Lieut. G. H. Jennings          |
| 2nd Lieut. W. D. Evans                   | 2nd Lieut. S. J. Thomas            |
| 2nd Lieut. A. B. Brotherton              | 2nd Lieut. F. A. Lawson            |
| No. 15458 Coy. Sergt.-Major H. H. Grundy | No. 34897 L/Corpl. W. Webb         |
| No. 11553 Coy. Sergt.-Major W. H. Hewitt | No. 35020 Pte. E. Bumford          |
| No. 8780 Coy. Sergt.-Major W. Rowley     | No. 39667 Pte. E. Davies           |
| No. 15482 Sergt. R. B. Crabb             | No. 13279 Pte. H. Evans            |
| No. 38456 Sergt. W. Ambury               | No. 15007 Pte. E. J. Edwards       |
| No. 17709 Sergt. E. Thomas               | No. 14960 Pte. G. M. Fox           |
| No. 29507 Sergt. L. Thomas               | No. 34093 Pte. C. M. Fryer         |
| No. 34314 Sergt. J. Davies               | No. 19953 Pte. J. Griffiths        |
| No. 15137 Sergt. D. M. Mc-Sweeney        | No. 32971 Pte. E. Howercroft       |
| No. 33764 Sergt. J. W. Lloyd             | No. 25419 Pte. W. Jones            |
| No. 13461 Sergt. W. H. Wilcock           | No. 15041 Pte. W. R. Morgan        |
| No. 15481 Sergt. J. W. Pettifor          | No. 13731 Pte. S. McCarthy         |
| No. 15544 Sergt. W. Thomas               | No. 35055 Pte. C. Murphy           |
| No. 15547 Corpl. F. W. Smith             | No. 34228 Pte. J. Nagle            |
| No. 23301 Corpl. L. Jones                | No. 33502 Pte. S. Ashcroft         |
| No. 34387 Corpl. R. Gough                | No. 34801 Pte. A. W. Boulton       |
| No. 6093 L/Corpl. G. Phillips            | No. 34056 Pte. E. L. Burford       |
| No. 15180 Coy. Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. G. Bowen   | No. 12985 Pte. W. Davies           |
| No. 9534 L/Sergt. F. Walker              | No. 15136 Pte. W. Owens            |
| No. 16298 L/Sergt. P. Murphy             | No. 36581 Pte. S. J. Slater        |
| No. 15205 L/Sergt. T. Keay               | No. 36300 Pte. J. E. Thomas        |
| No. 14981 Corpl. W. Jones                | No. 12043 Pte. W. E. Thomas        |
| No. 9233 Corpl. S. Astill                | No. 45782 Pte. W. J. Boxhall       |
| No. 15134 Corpl. E. J. Edwards           | No. 36523 Pte. W. Dougherty        |
| No. 15250 Corpl. J. Rowlands             | No. 34084 Pte. A. Edwards          |
| No. 15690 Corpl. J. Phillips             | No. 5592 Pte. B. Morris            |
| No. 15109 Corpl. M. Peters               | No. 21200 Pte. T. Parry            |
| No. 15312 Corpl. H. Driscoll             | No. 33607 Pte. C. Armstrong        |
| No. 15756 Corpl. J. R. Sifleet           | No. 15256 L/Corpl. J. Jones        |
| No. 40214 Corpl. D. Phillips             | No. 15285 L/Corpl. H. Bowker       |
| No. 15450 Corpl. A. T. John              | No. 18323 L/Corpl. J. E. Hughes    |
| No. 34926 Corpl. R. O. Hughes            | No. 34075 L/Corpl. W. J. Cross     |
| No. 34058 L/Corpl. G. Cole               | No. 39082 L/Corpl. R. Evans        |
| No. 26617 L/Corpl. J. R. Owen            | No. 38522 L/Corpl. E. Evans        |
| No. 40017 L/Corpl. K. Evans              | No. 38104 L/Corpl. B. Davies       |
| No. 38879 L/Corpl. T. Coupe              | No. 13646 L/Corpl. E. Connah       |
| No. 31307 L/Corpl. J. Lewis              | No. 35497 L/Corpl. R. W. Catherall |
| No. 23728 L/Corpl. H. Harris             | No. 22802 L/Corpl. A. G. Crow      |
| No. 39955 L/Corpl. W. Cliffe             | No. 50051 L/Corpl. W. Davies       |
| No. 20809 L/Corpl. S. L. Lewis           | No. 38055 L/Corpl. D. Davies       |
| No. 21677 L/Corpl. F. G. Latimer         | No. 32588 L/Corpl. D. W. Davies    |
|                                          | No. 15289 L/Corpl. E. Evans        |
|                                          | No. 13971 L/Corpl. E. Evans        |
|                                          | No. 16653 L/Corpl. M. R. Edmunds   |



*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 34046 L/Corpl. W. Ferguson   | No. 31718 Pte. H. Langstaff    |
| No. 15269 L/Corpl. W. Henshall   | No. 15699 Pte. T. J. Owen      |
| No. 13810 L/Corpl. T. Hughes     | No. 29985 Pte. D. Owen         |
| No. 40456 L/Corpl. W. Herbert    | No. 27143 Pte. W. R. H. Sleigh |
| No. 35436 L/Corpl. L. Hughes     | No. 27366 Pte. J. R. M. Turner |
| No. 19660 L/Corpl. J. Hardacre   | No. 15764 Pte. H. Walters      |
| No. 20828 L/Corpl. E. J. F. Hall | No. 15056 Pte. T. Nixon        |
| No. 31914 L/Corpl. W. Jones      | No. 8455 Pte. T. Crompton      |
| No. 24352 L/Corpl. C. Kersley    | No. 35454 Pte. T. Pownall      |
| No. 33559 L/Corpl. T. Lewis      | No. 22686 Pte. W. T. Smith     |
| No. 26853 L/Corpl. A. Leakey     | No. 43194 Pte. W. Arthur       |
| No. 35341 L/Corpl. H. Melrose    | No. 22231 Pte. W. Bagshall     |
| No. 29580 L/Corpl. W. T. Owen    | No. 39761 Pte. H. H. Blackburn |
| No. 23450 L/Corpl. C. Piff       | No. 38052 Pte. E. Bidmead      |
| No. 15105 L/Corpl. A. Petrie     | No. 28060 Pte. H. Dixon        |
| No. 34912 L/Corpl. W. Price      | No. 38096 Pte. B. Dunning      |
| No. 5466 L/Corpl. S. Phillips    | No. 19979 Pte. G. Egan         |
| No. 13431 L/Corpl. H. Rees       | No. 23215 Pte. J. Gibson       |
| No. 13692 L/Corpl. J. H. Roberts | No. 36315 Pte. A. Green        |
| No. 30888 Pte. W. Sutton         | No. 50053 Pte. W. George       |
| No. 15884 Pte. E. Williams       | No. 15485 Pte. E. Hughes       |
| No. 29607 Pte. D. Williams       | No. 50040 Pte. J. Jones        |
| No. 27335 Pte. A. H. Ball        | No. 4061 Pte. J. Kennedy       |
| No. 38814 Pte. W. Bowyer         | No. 15597 Pte. B. Lloyd        |
| No. 38161 Pte. H. Bendorffe      | No. 28005 Pte. W. Maginn       |
| No. 8354 Pte. F. Booker          | No. 24359 Pte. J. Morgan       |
| No. 33673 Pte. T. Carberry       | No. 31782 Pte. J. Dixon        |
| No. 33113 Pte. A. Clarke         | No. 18146 Pte. A. Probert      |
| No. 39934 Pte. D. Davies         | No. 37230 Pte. D. Roberts      |
| No. 38513 Pte. J. M. Davies      | No. 43250 Pte. W. Roberts      |
| No. 23470 Pte. W. J. Davies      | No. 24346 Pte. J. Sykes        |
| No. 36234 Pte. H. Ellison        | No. 21069 Pte. H. Thomas       |
| No. 15818 Pte. E. Hughes         | No. 36519 Pte. J. S. Walker    |
| No. 14464 Pte. F. J. Harding     | No. 35130 Pte. W. Wiel         |
| No. 15667 Pte. J. John           | No. 22825 Pte. G. Scammell     |
| No. 16316 Pte. J. Jones          | No. 35455 Pte. J. Pollard      |
| No. 4428 Pte. G. F. Jones        | No. 14992 Pte. J. Howarth      |
| No. 40180 Pte. H. T. Jones       | No. 35205 Pte. F. H. Galois    |
| No. 15389 Pte. F. Lines          | No. 39298 Pte. J. H. Starkey   |

*Wounded (Shell shock).*

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 14914 L/Sergt. T. Barton | No. 40388 Pte. D. R. Jones     |
| No. 36361 Pte. A. Turner     | No. 31797 Pte. W. Hocking      |
| No. 36451 Pte. G. Jennings   | No. 39081 Pte. T. E. Griffiths |
| No. 31244 Pte. E. Kershaw    |                                |

*Wounded and Reported Missing*

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 14017 Sergt. H. Dooley   | No. 27184 Pte. H. T. Greenwood  |
| No. 23059 Sergt. A. Sproston | No. 5373 L/Corpl. M. Toohey     |
| No. 23280 Pte. P. Gallagher  | No. 35042 L/Corpl. H. W. Coster |
| No. 35358 Pte. N. Siegal     |                                 |

*Reported Missing*

|                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 38089 Sergt. T. George        | No. 26856 Pte. H. W. Smith    |
| No. 15511 L/Sergt. G. T. Wickland | No. 14972 Pte. J. L. Williams |
| No. 26780 Corpl. R. J. Saltwell   | No. 35496 Pte. D. E. Whybra   |
| No. 35371 L/Corpl. W. E. Jones    | No. 24288 Pte. J. Williams    |
| No. 37950 L/Corpl. D. J. Evans    | No. 39775 Pte. H. Ainsworth   |
| No. 36890 L/Corpl. B. H. Brett    | No. 35391 Pte. C. Albon       |
| No. 14197 Pte. P. Costello        | No. 38813 Pte. T. Alderman    |
| No. 18525 Pte. A. Davies          | No. 12897 Pte. I. Anthony     |
| No. 15147 Pte. S. T. Davies       | No. 38162 Pte. W. Bunnell     |
| No. 15025 Pte. W. J. Jones        | No. 36480 Pte. C. Blunt       |
| No. 16334 Pte. B. W. Lewis        | No. 18360 Pte. S. Bellis      |
| No. 15073 Pte. W. Roberts         | No. 35185 Pte. A. Brooks      |
| No. 15143 Pte. J. Williams        | No. 31899 Pte. J. Dyer        |
| No. 36940 Pte. S. Bone            | No. 40571 Pte. H. G. Davies   |
| No. 19968 Pte. J. Clayton         | No. 36977 Pte. E. Edwards     |
| No. 20365 Pte. W. Davies          | No. 37321 Pte. D. Evans       |
| No. 36575 Pte. T. Downing         | No. 35771 Pte. D. Gwilliam    |
| No. 5376 Pte. W. Edwards          | No. 22022 Pte. W. Gysser      |
| No. 35058 Pte. E. W. Smith        | No. 39765 Pte. A. Hill        |
| No. 21173 Pte. H. P. Williams     | No. 37234 Pte. H. Jones       |
| No. 40387 Pte. W. J. Davies       | No. 19034 Pte. W. L. Jones    |
| No. 27674 Pte. W. Baxter          | No. 16829 Pte. L. Jones       |
| No. 12736 Pte. H. Broughton       | No. 12417 Pte. T. Kennedy     |
| No. 38158 Pte. J. Barlow          | No. 4856 Pte. J. Owens        |
| No. 38835 Pte. W. Clewes          | No. 39247 Pte. D. Owens       |
| No. 35434 Pte. E. W. Davies       | No. 36825 Pte. J. Rowlands    |
| No. 38177 Pte. W. Davies          | No. 15517 Pte. I. Roberts     |
| No. 38180 Pte. G. Dowdle          | No. 43285 Pte. H. Sellings    |
| No. 26285 Pte. H. Ellis           | No. 39261 Pte. J. Schole      |
| No. 38057 Pte. J. M. Edwards      | No. 37254 Pte. G. J. Timms    |
| No. 12940 Pte. H. Garner          | No. 39277 Pte. W. Vernon      |
| No. 50003 Pte. G. Gittens         | No. 39782 Pte. G. Williams    |
| No. 19701 Pte. J. H. Green        | No. 36426 Pte. J. W. Cox      |
| No. 4919 Pte. J. D. Hunt          | No. 33139 Pte. T. Heeney      |
| No. 37503 Pte. D. T. Jones        | No. 39326 Pte. R. Hughes      |
| No. 44580 Pte. R. Jones           | No. 39659 Pte. R. T. Jones    |
| No. 21561 Pte. F. Locke           | No. 39954 Pte. W. Levers      |
| No. 36036 Pte. J. Lease           | No. 29988 Pte. F. Lees        |
| No. 43220 Pte. E. Murphy          | No. 15665 Pte. T. Smith       |
| No. 37288 Pte. J. P. Morris       | No. 34820 Pte. C. W. Bullen   |
| No. 17567 Pte. H. J. Nicholas     | No. 18351 Pte. W. H. Branch   |
| No. 26100 Pte. I. J. Roberts      | No. 34847 Pte. J. L. Williams |
| No. 25802 Pte. E. O. Roberts      | No. 24125 Pte. T. Thompson    |

*August 20th.* The battalion marched to Happy Valley.

*21st.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to Morlan-court.

A draft of 133 rank and file, from the Denbigh Hussar

Yeomanry, joined the battalion, in charge of Lieut. H. J. K. Lewis, rejoining for duty.

*August 22nd.* At 6 a.m. the battalion marched to Mericourt l'Abbé where it entrained, and, detraining at Fienvillers-Candas, marched to Bois Bergues, getting into billets at 5.50 p.m.

*25th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the Fortel area, being billeted at Vacquerie.

*26th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the Croix area, being billeted at Oeuff.

*27th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the Berguenese area, being billeted at Fiefs.

*28th.* The battalion marched into billets at Sachin.

*29th.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched to the Bruay area and billeted at Bruay.

*31st.* The battalion marched to Noeux-les-Mines.

The Company Commanders, Specialist Officers, and N.C.O.s visited the trenches in the Loos Sector.

On August 30th-31st, a draft of 25 rank and file joined the battalion and the following joined for duty: Captain W. S. Brocklehurst, Captain E. H. Howard, Captain W. F. Rudd, Captain E. W. Bishop, 2nd Lieut. R. H. Williams, 2nd Lieut. A. F. Williams, 2nd Lieut. H. R. Davies, 2nd Lieut. F. H. Sewell, 2nd Lieut. C. G. N. Morgan, 2nd Lieut. D. Davies, 2nd Lieut. A. C. Daniel, 2nd Lieut. D. G. Quin, 2nd Lieut. G. Thomas, 2nd Lieut. L. E. Roberts, 2nd Lieut. P. Williams, 2nd Lieut. H. M. Jones, 2nd Lieut. H. G. Thomas, and the following Officers rejoined the battalion: Lieut. W. B. Morgan, 2nd Lieut. E. Vaughan-Jones.

*September 1st.* The battalion marched to the trench area, Loos Sector, and went into support lines in Village and Tenth Avenue.

*2nd.* Temporary Major F. A. Samuel assumed Temporary Command of the battalion (with acting rank of Lieut.-Colonel) vice Temporary Lieut.-Colonel A. de. L. Long (Bt. Major, Gordon Highlanders).

*4th.* Casualties—wounded: No. 34096 Pte. R. Hindley.

*6th.* The trenches were shelled at 7.40 p.m.

Casualties—wounded: No. 8410 Pte. J. Jones, No. 31933 Pte. F. Williams, No. 43562 Pte. J. Doyle, No. 50036 Pte. A. Wedge, No. 15452 Pte. J. McDonagh.

*7th.* The trenches were shelled at 8 p.m. Casualties nil.

*September 8th.* The battalion moved up into the front-line trenches and took over the following sections from 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment: A Coy., bays 44-46; B Coy., bay 47; C Coy. bays 48, 49; D Coy. in reserve.

*10th.* The enemy trench mortars were active.

Casualties—wounded: No. 15427 Pte. M. Hughes, No. 15488 Pte. J. Jones, No. 33057 Pte. E. Wilkinson (who died of wounds on 14th September).

*11th.* Enemy trench mortars active. The following Officers joined the battalion for duty (on 7th Sept.): 2nd Lieut. A. E. Capell, 2nd Lieut. H. Pritchard, 2nd Lieut. C. W. Wilmore, 2nd Lieut. M. Watcyn-Williams, 2nd Lieut. A. I. Hughes, 2nd Lieut. J. G. Williams.

Casualties—wounded: No. 21968 Pte. W. J. Biggs.

*12th.* Enemy trench mortars active.

Casualties—killed: No. 23266 Pte. G. Wilson; wounded No. 14659 Pte. S. Williams.

*13th.* Enemy trench mortars active.

Casualties—killed: No. 39754 Pte. T. Vost; wounded: 2nd Lieut. F. Williams, No. 15413 Sergt. W. J. Bridle, No. 1706 Pte. T. Williams.

*15th.* Enemy trench mortars active.

Casualties—wounded: No. 1796 Pte. J. M. Williams, No. 1792 Pte. J. Moody, No. 1623 Pte. H. Wagstaffe.

*16th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches at 4 p.m. by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, and marched into billets at Mazingarbe.

Casualties—wounded: No. 15193 Pte. B. Little, No. 23419 Pte. J. Jones, No. 15526 Pte. R. H. Roberts.

A draft of 7 rank and file joined the battalion.

*18th.* The following acting appointments were made: Captain A. J. S. James, acting Second-in-Command; Captain E. H. Howard, acting Adjutant.

*19th.* The award of the following decorations was announced:

No. 34314 Sergt. J. Davies, Cross of Saint George, 1st Class (Russian).

No. 15280 Pte. A. Hill, Croix de Guerre (French).

No. 11553 Company Sergt.-Major W. E. Hewitt, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 15722 Sergt. W. T. Jones, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 15791 Sergt. A. Punchard, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 6614 Sergt. J. Mills, Military Medal.

No. 15286 Pte. D. Walters, Military Medal.

No. 15084 Pte. A. E. Roberts, Military Medal.

No. 31075 Pte. J. Roberts, Military Medal.

*September 20th.* A draft of 7 rank and file joined the battalion.

*23rd.* The battalion, in Brigade, marched into billets at Lozinghem.

*24th.* The battalion marched into billets at Liettres.

The award of the following decorations was announced :

2nd Lieut. L. P. Vernon, Military Cross.

No. 15335 Pte. E. Ouldcott, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 15175 Pte. J. R. Ballard, Military Medal.

No. 24515 Pte. A. W. Cox, Military Medal.

No. 15215 L/Corpl. J. M. Price, Military Medal.

*26th.* A draft of 87 rank and file joined the battalion.

*28th.* Captain H. Hall-Morgan joined for duty, on appointment.

*28th.* 2nd Lieut. A. C. Daniel was appointed Sniping and Intelligence Officer to the battalion.

The award of the following decorations was announced :

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to award the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned :

No. 34314 Corpl. Joseph Davies, Royal Welch Fusiliers. For most conspicuous bravery. Prior to an attack on the enemy in a wood he became separated with eight men from the rest of his company. When the enemy delivered their second counter-attack his party was completely surrounded, but he got them into a shell-hole, and by throwing bombs and opening rapid fire, succeeded in routing them.

Not content with this he followed them up in their retreat and bayoneted several of them. Corporal Davies set a magnificent example of pluck and determination. He has done other very gallant work, and was badly wounded in the second battle of Ypres.

No. 15280 Private Albert Hill, Royal Welch Fusiliers. For most conspicuous bravery. When his battalion had deployed under very heavy fire for an attack on the enemy in a wood, he dashed forward, when the order to charge was given, and, meeting two of the enemy suddenly, bayoneted

them both. He was sent later by his platoon sergeant to get into touch with the company, and, finding himself cut off and almost surrounded by some twenty of the enemy, attacked them with bombs, killing and wounding many, and scattering the remainder.

He then joined a sergeant of his company, and helped him to fight their way back to the lines.

When he got back, hearing that his Company Officer and a scout were lying out wounded, he went out and assisted to bring in the wounded Officer, two other men bringing in the scout.

Finally, he himself captured and brought in as prisoners, two of the enemy. His conduct throughout was magnificent.

During bombing practice, with live bombs, the following casualties occurred—died of wounds : L/Sergt. No. 26595 J. E. Hughes ; wounded : Lieut. W. B. Morgan, No. 21281 Pte. J. Jones, No. 57022 Pte. A. Kirk, No. 23289 Pte. G. Hughes.

*October 1st.* The following Farewell Order by Brig.-General R. S. Kentish, D.S.O., on relinquishing Command of the 76th Brigade on 1st October, was published :

“ I am issuing this special order to your battalion, both to mark my keen sense of appreciation of the magnificent gallantry displayed by your battalion and also in order that you may use it as a record for all time of your conduct as a battalion in the great battle of the Somme during the period you were engaged with the enemy.

The period commenced on the 6th July, and terminated, as far as my command of the Brigade is concerned, on 20th August. Throughout the whole of that period, your battalion showed the same courage, endurance, and devotion to duty that has ever been conspicuous in the history of the Royal Welch Fusiliers. Your gallantry in Delville Wood on the 20th July will never be forgotten, and when the history of the Somme battle comes to be written, and especially of the intense fighting round and in the wood, the part played by your battalion on the night of the 20th, and in the early hours of the 21st, will provide a page in that history, and which, as a record of staunchness and devotion to duty of a battalion misled by guides, and shot into by friend and foe, will possibly be unsurpassed in this war.

## 56 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Two Victoria Crosses, one gained by Corporal J. Davies, and the other by Private A. Hill, on that night, will remain for ever as a lasting proof of the magnificent conduct of your battalion. More experienced troops might well have broken without incurring the adverse criticism of their superiors. You, a young battalion of inexperienced soldiers, neither broke nor did you incur this adverse criticism; on the contrary, you held your ground and, at the hour appointed, charged forward to the attack, not once but twice and three times, and in so doing carried out your duty and gained the praise of your Commanders.

Again, during all the hard fighting in and around Maltz Horn Ridge from the 18th to 20th August, and especially on the night of the 17th and afternoon of the 18th, you gave some splendid examples of courage and devotion to duty that has always been traditional with you, and this in spite of your ranks being filled with newly joined drafts.

Your casualties are in themselves severe and lasting proof of the severity of the fighting in which you have been engaged.

I personally deeply regret the loss of every single Officer and man of your battalion, each one of whom I had come to regard as a personal friend.

You have however the consolation in knowing that you have emerged from the Somme fighting with the greatest credit, and that to-day you stand in the ranks of a battalion that can lay claim to a great record, a record of which the old parent battalions of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and His Majesty the King, your Colonel-in-Chief, will ever be justly proud.

I thank you for the support you have accorded me in all the severe fighting, and I trust that your conduct may be held up in front of every Officer, N.C.O., and man, joining for the first time, your splendid battalion."

R. J. KENTISH,

Brigadier-General Commanding 76th Brigade.

Brig.-General C. L. Porter (from 17th Division) assumes Command of 76th Infantry Brigade.

*October 4th.* Major C. B. Hore, 1st battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, assumed Temporary Command

of the battalion, with acting rank of Lieut.-Colonel, vice Major (acting Lieut.-Colonel) F. A. Samuel, reported sick.

*October 5th.* The battalion marched into billets at Fiefs.

*7th.* The battalion marched to Saint Pol, and entrained for Acheux.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty, on appointment : 2nd Lieut. W. H. Morris, 2nd Lieut. H. L. Harries.

*8th.* The battalion marched to Bertrancourt.

Major F. A. Samuel and Captain M. Murray were invalided to England.

*9th.* Casualty—wounded : No. 57006 Pte. R. Duckett.

The award of the Military Medal to the following N.C.O.s and men was announced : No. 16298 Sergt. P. Murphy, No. 15137 Sergt. D. M. McSweeney, No. 15551 Sergt. S. Sutcliffe, No. 15109 Corpl. M. Peters, No. 15689 Pte. J. Pritchard, No. 15424 Pte. W. Thomas, No. 4697 Pte. R. Wynne, No. 27575 Pte. L. Stembridge, No. 15728 Pte. N. Williams, No. 15589 Pte. G. W. Abel.

*12th.* A draft of 18 rank and file joined the battalion.

*14th.* The battalion daily furnishing large working parties.

Casualties—killed : No. 54446 Pte. E. J. Wilcox, No. 34951 Pte. J. Windsor ; wounded : No. 30888 L/Corpl. W. Sutton, No. 50007 Pte. J. Jones, No. 39762 Pte. W. Ackley.

*16th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15017 Pte. J. Williams.

*17th.* The battalion marched to Louvaincourt.

*19th.* The battalion marched to the trench area, Serre District, and took over sections of trenches from the 13th battalion King's (Liverpool) Regiment.

Casualty—wounded : No. 56790 Pte. J. Roberts.

*21st.* The battalion, after relief in the trenches by the 13th battalion King's (Liverpool) Regiment, marched into billets at Bus (les Artois).

A draft of 11 rank and file joined the battalion ; the following Officers also joined the battalion for duty : Captain B. M. Cutbush, 2nd Lieut. T. Rea, 2nd Lieut. H. D. Taylor.

*23rd.* Casualty—wounded : 2nd Lieut. H. W. Rayner (on duty with Trench Mortar Battery).



## 58 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Captain G. L. Compton-Smith, Royal Welch Fusiliers, assumed Command of the battalion on appointment, with acting rank of Lieut.-Colonel vice Major (Acting Lieut.-Colonel) C. B. Hore.

*November 5th.* The award of the Distinguished Service Order to the late Captain C. A. R. Follitt, m.c., appeared in the *London Gazette* of 20th October.

*6th.* A draft of 47 rank and file joined the battalion.

*9th.* A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion.

*12th.* In the morning A and C Coys. marched to the trenches, followed by B and D Coys. in the evening, under orders to attack and hold four lines of German trenches in front of Serre.

*13th.* The Battle of the Ancre.

The battalion attacked the hostile trenches at Serre at 5.45 a.m. in eight lines, B, D, C, A Coys. The two leading companies deployed successfully in "No-man's land" and the two rear companies in the open in front of Rob Roy Trench. The left of the leading company was on Mark Copse and the right in front of Matthew Copse; with a frontage of 250 yards. Touch was obtained with the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment on our left flank, and with the 1st battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers on our right flank. The 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders were in our rear in Campion Trench, with orders to attack Serre Village after the four German lines in front had been cleared.

At 6.38 a.m., and 6.46 a.m., messages were received reporting satisfactory progress of the battalion's advance.

At 7.50 a.m. a message arrived from the 2nd Suffolk Regiment reporting that they, and the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), were held up in the German first and second lines.

Apparently, from subsequent accounts of wounded and survivors, the two front companies of the battalion had reached the German fourth line, but in doing so had lost touch with the battalions on either flank.

The enemy's fourth-line trench was strongly held and fully provided with bombs and machine-guns.

The Germans attacked round the flanks of our company which were "in the air," and practically surrounded them, and the greater part are now reported as "missing."

Our third company had advanced as far as the third

German line, and with the 1st Gordon Highlanders held it for an hour, but both flanks being now unsupported, they were forced to retire on our original line, and by nightfall all survivors of both battalions had been brought back to our old front line.

During the night 2nd Lieut. Pritchard rejoined, after spending eighteen hours in the German fourth line !

Casualties during the action of the 13th November :

*Killed in Action*

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2nd Lieut. A. E. Capell      | 2nd Lieut. H. G. Thomas        |
| 2nd Lieut. P. Williams       | 2nd Lieut. H. M. Jones         |
| 2nd Lieut. G. Thomas         | 2nd Lieut. D. Davies           |
| 2nd Lieut. R. H. Williams    | 2nd Lieut. H. L. Harries       |
| No. 14961 Pte. D. Evans      | No. 54440 Pte. F. Edwards      |
| No. 23031 Pte. W. G. Perkins | No. 5806 Pte. J. E. Pritchard  |
| No. 56990 Pte. C. Evans      | No. 29615 Corpl. T. R. Knowles |
| No. 35702 L/Corpl. H. Early  | No. 8190 Corpl. C. Murphy      |
| No. 13243 Pte. W. Abel       | No. 6284 Pte. Williams         |
| No. 12636 Pte. J. Jones      | No. 15357 Pte. J. H. Lane      |
| No. 57076 Pte. J. Clutton    | No. 19254 Pte. W. T. Davies    |

*Missing—Reported Killed*

Captain W. F. Rudd

*Died of Wounds*

|                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| No. 56992 Pte. J. Crabtree   | No. 22532 Pte. W. Hoare |
| No. 27774 Pte. J. R. Edwards |                         |

*Wounded*

|                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Captain W. N. Davies               | 2nd Lieut. E. Vaughan-Jones    |
| 2nd Lieut. I. A. Hughes            |                                |
| No. 54432 L/Corpl. E. Thompson     | No. 36431 Pte. W. Clough       |
| No. 35071 L/Corpl. H. V. Major     | No. 33506 Pte. W. H. Bailey    |
| No. 12715 L/Corpl. J. Davies       | No. 15165 Corpl. R. Roberts    |
| No. 18142 L/Corpl. R. Billinghurst | No. 10533 Pte. E. Morris       |
| No. 34093 Pte. C. Fryer            | No. 24430 Pte. G. Marden       |
| No. 33595 Pte. H. Willis           | No. 34375 L/Corpl. J. Harvey   |
| No. 15260 Pte. I. A. Hughes        | No. 10009 Pte. W. Webb         |
| No. 15026 Pte. T. Lewis            | No. 23968 Pte. H. Yonds        |
| No. 57048 Pte. F. D. Hayes         | No. 17312 Pte. D. T. Dennis    |
| No. 56760 Pte. H. P. Thomas        | No. 12381 Pte. W. H. Johnson   |
| No. 34812 Pte. A. W. Child         | No. 57003 Pte. J. N. Jones     |
| No. 57035 Pte. H. Freeman          | No. 15261 Sergt. W. Lewis      |
| No. 56761 Pte. D. E. Thorpe        | No. 6414 Sergt. J. Mills       |
| No. 54439 Pte. R. H. Williams      | No. 14643 Sergt. R. Carr       |
|                                    | No. 15368 L/Sergt. W. C. Price |

*Wounded—{cont.}*

|                                         |                                 |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 57014 Corpl. T. A. Dunning          | No. 24680 Pte. C. Ralph         |
| No. 15281 L/Corpl. W. Knott             | No. 33855 Pte. C. Watford       |
| No. 57064 Pte. J. Butler                | No. 15500 Sergt. R. White       |
| No. 54711 Pte. N. Davies                | No. 15504 Sergt. G. H. Hughes   |
| No. 54708 Pte. G. Davies                | No. 23728 Corpl. H. Harris      |
| No. 17178 Pte. E. J. Elcock             | No. 23067 L/Corpl. A. Jones     |
| No. 19830 Pte. R. H. George             | No. 36699 L/Corpl. S. Bates     |
| No. 11128 Pte. J. Hughes                | No. 57077 Pte. D. Powell        |
| No. 57018 Pte. A. Harris                | No. 54435 Pte. W. Trow          |
| No. 31562 Pte. F. James                 | No. 23278 Pte. R. A. Walters    |
| No. 54736 Pte. E. W. Jones              | No. 54814 Sergt. R. Thomas      |
| No. 33783 Pte. F. Marsh                 | No. 34897 L/Sergt. W. Webb      |
| No. 13692 Pte. J. H. Roberts            | No. 8717 L/Corpl. A. Jays       |
| No. 54430 Pte. W. C. Shuffle-<br>botham | No. 54618 L/Corpl. G. Daniels   |
| No. 54434 Pte. H. Thomas                | No. 36189 L/Corpl. G. Gallagher |
| No. 15306 Pte. S. A. Wells              | No. 8209 L/Corpl. J. Blundell   |
| No. 57040 Pte. A. Blackshaw             | No. 16120 Pte. G. Hughes        |
| No. 17460 Pte. D. J. Davies             | No. 57019 Pte. R. Henshaw       |
| No. 56949 Pte. L. B. Davies             | No. 31163 Pte. M. Jones         |
| No. 16301 Pte. L. P. Jones              | No. 29987 Pte. P. Newton        |
| No. 33777 Pte. N. McLeod                | No. 33819 Pte. P. Rayner        |
| No. 15741 Pte. D. Owen                  | No. 27648 Pte. E. H. Sealey     |

*Wounded and Missing*

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 22169 Pte. W. Dale       | No. 34033 Pte. S. Roberts      |
| No. 54259 Pte. J. W. Lloyd   | No. 15045 Pte. S. Davies       |
| No. 59260 Pte. — Williams    | No. 5021 Pte. W. Alexander     |
| No. 15129 Pte. E. Williams   | No. 40367 Corpl. H. O. Ellis   |
| No. 33554 Pte. W. James      | No. 15825 Pte. S. Bailey       |
| No. 54700 Pte. T. Brookes    | No. 54737 Pte. R. H. Jones     |
| No. 15346 Pte. J. McFarlane  | No. 15413 Sergt. W. J. Bridle  |
| No. 5192 Corpl. D. Walters   | No. 36333 Corpl. T. Roberts    |
| No. 33554 Pte. W. James      | No. 5398 Pte. R. L. Pearson    |
| No. 57003 Pte. J. N. Jones   | No. 54397 Pte. D. S. Evans     |
| No. 10783 Pte. A. Ayers      | No. 29611 Pte. J. Evans        |
| No. 18232 Pte. C. Hatch      | No. 34633 Pte. A. E. Mansfield |
| No. 12381 Pte. W. H. Johnson |                                |

*Reported Wounded and Subsequently Reported Prisoners-of-War*

|                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 39122 Pte. R. Jones               | No. 54438 Pte. J. A. Rowlands   |
| No. 56728 Pte. J. McCann              | No. 54715 Pte. J. Evans         |
| No. 54401 Pte. A. Herod               | No. 15544 Sergt. W. Thomas      |
| No. 56999 L/Corpl. A. Pegg            | No. 38845 L/Sergt. D. M. Hughes |
| No. 26785 L/Corpl. A. J. F.<br>Webber | No. 23415 Pte. J. W. Davies     |
| No. 57079 Pte. J. W. B. Johnson       | No. 57042 Pte. A. Mort          |

## *Reported Missing and subsequently Reported Killed*

|                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 54260 Pte. T. Williams | No. 15291 Corpl. J. S. Trivett |
| No. 54427 Pte. W. Parry    |                                |

## *Reported Missing and Subsequently as having Died when Prisoners-of-War*

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 29656 Pte. H. F. Hunt    | No. 18695 Pte. J. Greenwood |
| No. 54399 Pte. J. W. Forster |                             |

## *Reported Missing and subsequently Prisoners-of-War*

Captain E. W. Bishop

|                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 33950 L/Corpl. S. J. Lomas   | No. 17226 Pte. J. Craven        |
| No. 54707 Pte. A. Cummings       | No. 54395 Pte. A. Cockcroft     |
| No. 57024 Pte. R. H. Davies      | No. 33456 Pte. W. H. Evans      |
| No. 54721 Pte. R. E. Griffiths   | No. 57080 Pte. H. Ingham        |
| No. 54730 Pte. J. P. Hughes      | No. 57044 Pte. A. Ingham        |
| No. 54739 Pte. D. Jones          | No. 15227 Pte. J. E. Owen       |
| No. 20389 Pte. W. S. Launchbury  | No. 54428 Pte. E. T. Probert    |
| No. 23584 Pte. G. F. Pattison    | No. 56789 Pte. C. Thompson      |
| No. 56786 Pte. G. W. Williams    | No. 35479 Pte. G. A. Thompson   |
| No. 11386 Corpl. R. E. Bates     | No. 36439 Corpl. W. J. Parry    |
| No. 57083 Pte. A. Beckwith       | No. 57052 L/Corpl. G. T. Davies |
| No. 57059 Pte. E. Carter         | No. 5333 L/Corpl. S. Kimberlin  |
| No. 18076 Pte. R. I. Davies      | No. 54461 Pte. F. Dowbiggin     |
| No. 54421 Pte. A. B. Morrell     | No. 57020 Pte. E. D. Evans      |
| No. 54417 Pte. J. E. Marsh       | No. 46088 Pte. A. Hughes        |
| No. 15558 Pte. W. J. Pritchard   | No. 48841 Pte. F. Higham        |
| No. 57066 Pte. A. Roberts        | No. 40865 Pte. W. R. Jones      |
| No. 23244 Pte. A. Webster        | No. 26796 Pte. H. C. Manner     |
| No. 57064 Pte. R. Birks          | No. 56788 Pte. W. E. Shaw       |
| No. 13647 Pte. E. Davison        | No. 28370 Corpl. E. Fox         |
| No. 57063 Pte. H. Goodwin        | No. 54394 Pte. E. Charlton      |
| No. 54403 Pte. J. J. Hodgkinson  | No. 54396 Pte. R. O. Cambridge  |
| No. 57005 Pte. R. A. Jones       | No. 57051 Pte. E. Evans         |
| No. 33338 Pte. W. Lewis          | No. 54400 Pte. G. Harris        |
| No. 57078 Pte. R. Moody          | No. 43672 Pte. O. Hughes        |
| No. 56773 Pte. T. Roberts        | No. 56996 Pte. W. R. Jones      |
| No. 22209 Sergt. F. T. Post      | No. 37657 Pte. A. C. Jones      |
| No. 57041 Corpl. L. V. W. Archer | No. 23045 Pte. J. S. Raymond    |
|                                  | No. 54712 Pte. R. W. Evans      |

## *Reported Missing*

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 15129 Pte. E. Williams     | No. 54697 Pte. F. Allen      |
| No. 34033 Pte. S. Roberts      | No. 22231 Pte. W. Bagshall   |
| No. 15045 Pte. S. Davies       | No. 54702 Pte. H. Bailey     |
| No. 5021 Pte. W. Alexander     | No. 54705 Pte. H. Barlow     |
| No. 18770 L/Corpl. H. Davies   | No. 54703 Pte. A. Berry      |
| No. 19825 L/Corpl. R. Lewis    | No. 54701 Pte. A. Booker     |
| No. 40096 L/Corpl. E. H. Jones | No. 54699 Pte. J. Broadhurst |
| No. 16917 Pte. W. Anderson     | No. 10543 Pte. J. Donovan    |

*Reported Missing—(cont.)*

|                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. 54710 Pte. J. Derrick      | No. 54416 Pte. W. F. Morgan       |
| No. 54717 Pte. I. T. Evans     | No. 50039 Pte. P. Williams        |
| No. 54719 Pte. A. Fleet        | No. 37929 Pte. T. Williams        |
| No. 54718 Pte. E. T. Fell      | No. 25207 Pte. T. Foulkes         |
| No. 23487 Pte. L. Harris       | No. 54459 Pte. E. Ditchfield      |
| No. 54728 Pte. D. W. Harris    | No. 29611 Pte. J. Evans           |
| No. 54725 Pte. J. J. Hill      | No. 54398 Pte. R. Evans           |
| No. 54726 Pte. E. R. Hughes    | No. 15197 Pte. E. Hollingsworth   |
| No. 54727 Pte. W. T. Hughes    | No. 54412 Pte. J. Jones           |
| No. 54723 Pte. R. Humphreys    | No. 54409 Pte. W. A. Jones        |
| No. 54731 Pte. E. Hill         | No. 18561 Pte. C. Jones           |
| No. 54733 Pte. W. H. Jones     | No. 56777 Pte. D. Roberts         |
| No. 54732 Pte. T. H. Jones     | No. 56768 Pte. G. Richards        |
| No. 54422 Pte. F. H. Mountford | No. 54431 Pte. G. Swancott        |
| No. 28541 Pte. R. Roberts      | No. 54433 Pte. A. E. Tanner       |
| No. 54695 Pte. J. Stoker       | No. 54437 Pte. V. L. Walley       |
| No. 14936 Pte. L. Thomas       | No. 54413 Pte. R. Lee             |
| No. 17701 Pte. P. Wainwright   | No. 36233 Pte. J. McHugh          |
| No. 38112 Pte. A. Ash          | No. 21859 Pte. W. J. O'Connor     |
| No. 34303 Corpl. H. Cordier    | No. 12015 Pte. S. W. Roberts      |
| No. 11487 Corpl. W. Jones      | No. 54436 Pte. T. J. Williams     |
| No. 24568 Pte. R. Ashburg      | No. 57055 Corpl. E. Lallimont     |
| No. 57021 Pte. J. Bolderston   | No. 57054 L/Corpl. W. F. Newbould |
| No. 22750 Pte. D. Donovan      | No. 36320 Pte. C. Evans           |
| No. 57068 Pte. J. T. Deardon   | No. 15693 Pte. E. J. Evans        |
| No. 26666 Pte. A. Endersly     | No. 39912 Pte. E. Griffiths       |
| No. 57072 Pte. W. Edge         | No. 54411 Pte. D. W. Jones        |
| No. 31280 Pte. J. R. Gilmore   | No. 54410 Pte. A. Jones           |
| No. 54441 Pte. J. Griffiths    | No. 43668 Pte. R. Jones           |
| No. 15485 Pte. E. Hughes       | No. 54414 Pte. G. Lambert         |
| No. 56994 Pte. E. Hughes       | No. 56781 Pte. H. Roberts         |
| No. 54402 Pte. J. E. Hughes    | No. 35100 Pte. G. Seager          |
| No. 12005 Pte. H. Jones        | No. 36209 Pte. J. Speed           |
| No. 43255 Pte. E. Marshall     | No. 56767 Pte. D. E. Williams     |
| No. 54419 Pte. D. Morris       |                                   |

*November 15th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches and marched into billets in Courcelles.

A draft of 9 rank and file joined the battalion.

*17th.* The battalion marched to the Serre trenches and relieved the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders.

A draft of 25 rank and file joined the battalion.

*19th.* The battalion was relieved at night in the Serre trenches by the 12th battalion West Yorkshire Regiment, and marched into billets at Bus.

*20th.* A draft of 6 rank and file joined the battalion.

*21st.* A draft of 75 rank and file joined the battalion.

*November 24th.* A draft of 18 rank and file joined the battalion.

*26th.* A draft of 46 rank and file joined the battalion.

*27th.* The battalion marched into the Serre trenches.

Casualties—wounded: No. 29787 Pte. E. J. Wainwright.

*28th.* Casualties—killed: No. 35441 Pte. J. R. James, No. 34040 Pte. W. G. Hethington, No. 19711 Pte. S. Howley; wounded: No. 29480 Pte. W. G. Nicholas, No. 24039 Pte. E. W. Millard, No. 54938 Pte. W. Morgan, No. 40463 Pte. H. G. Jones, No. 39136 Pte. C. H. Hayes, No. 54888 Pte. F. Thomas.

*29th.* Casualties—killed: No. 24906 Pte. J. H. Roberts; died of wounds: No. 54982 Pte. T. Writer; wounded: No. 14757 Pte. A. Bowen, No. 54979 Pte. G. Watkins, No. 54983 Pte. W. Holgate, No. 54883 Pte. E. W. Sanders, No. 36578 Pte. T. Cooper, No. 54992 Pte. J. G. Johnson, No. 54895 Pte. C. H. Worthing, No. 54910 Pte. H. Chidley.

*30th.* Casualties—killed: No. 31857 Pte. O. Owens; died of wounds: No. 21866 L/Corpl. C. Tune; wounded: No. 54987 Pte. J. Hunt, No. 40090 Pte. W. G. Richards, No. 54875 Pte. A. Probert.

*December 1st.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches and marched into billets at Courcelles. A draft of 6 rank and file joined the battalion. The award of the Military Medal to No. 24891 L/Corpl. H. Hussey, was announced.

*2nd.* Lieut. J. O. Caldwell joined for duty, on appointment.

*3rd.* A draft of 93 rank and file joined the battalion.

Casualty—wounded accidentally: No. 12540 Pte. D. Hughes.

*5th.* The battalion marched into billets at Louvencourt.

*6th.* A draft of 5 rank and file joined the battalion.

*13th.* The battalion marched to the Serre trenches and relieved the 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers.

*14th.* Casualties—killed: No. 26915 Pte. A. Ellis; wounded: No. 16216 Pte. H. Charles, No. 54918 Pte. F. L. Durham.

*15th.* Major G. Trusler (4th battalion (T.) Royal Welch Fusiliers) was attached to the battalion for duty.

*17th.* The battalion, less one company, was relieved in

the trenches by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment and marched into billets at Courcelles.

*December 19th.* A draft of 5 rank and file joined the battalion.

*20th.* Two companies marched into billets at Louven-court, leaving one company at Courcelles.

The award of the Military Cross to the following Officers was announced: Captain the Rev. D. C. Williams (Chaplain), 2nd Lieut. H. Pritchard.

*21st.* The company left in the Serre trenches on the 17th instant was relieved by a company of the 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers, and marched into billets at Louvencourt. The company left at Courcelles also joined the remainder of the battalion at Louvencourt.

*22nd.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty: 2nd Lieut. J. M. Wardlaw, 2nd Lieut. J. W. Broxup, 2nd Lieut. S. C. Kirby, 2nd Lieut. E. Williams.

Lieut. E. Evans, Royal Army Medical Corps, joined the battalion to take over the duties of Medical Officer to the battalion vice Captain B. Grellier, m.c.

*24th.* 2nd Lieut. H. Curran joined the battalion for duty.

*26th.* Captain B. Grellier, m.c., Royal Army Medical Corps, proceeded to the Base for duty on handing over medical charge of the battalion to Lieut. Evans, Royal Army Medical Corps.

*29th.* The battalion marched to the Serre trench area, and took over the right sub-sector from the 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers.

2nd Lieut. G. A. Hall joined the battalion for duty.

*31st.* The following telegraphic message was received from the Commander-in-Chief: "I desire to convey to all ranks under my command, my hearty good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. It is indeed a privilege to command such Officers and such men, and I feel confident that the magnificent qualities they have already displayed in the face of the enemy, will carry our Arms to ultimate Victory."

*1917, January 1st.* The battalion, less one company, was relieved in the trenches by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, and marched into billets at Courcelles.

*2nd.* 2nd Lieut. A. G. Williams joined the battalion for duty.

*January 3rd.* The battalion, less one company, joined the remaining company (left in the trenches on the 1st instant) and relieved the 2nd Suffolk Regiment.

*4th.* Lieut. O. S. Hughes rejoined the battalion for duty.

*5th.* The battalion, less one company, was relieved in the trenches by the 2nd Suffolk Regiment, and marched into billets at Courcelles.

*6th.* The company in the trenches, having been relieved by a company of the 17th battalion Highland Light Infantry, joined the battalion at Courcelles and the whole proceeded by motor-lorries to Rubempre, and went into billets there.

*8th.* Captain and Adjutant E. H. Howard assumes acting appointment of Second-in-Command vice Major A. J. S. James, m.c., proceeding to England to join the Senior Officers' School of Instruction.

*9th.* The battalion marched into billets at Halloy.

*10th.* A draft of 15 rank and file joined the battalion.

*11th.* Lieut. H. Beswick joined the battalion for duty.

*12th.* A draft of 15 rank and file joined the battalion.

*15th.* A draft of 12 rank and file joined the battalion.

*18th.* A draft of 66 rank and file joined the battalion, with 2nd Lieut. F. A. Lawson rejoining for duty.

*19th.* A draft of 16 rank and file joined the battalion.

*20th.* 2nd Lieut. H. D. Evans rejoined the battalion for duty.

*22nd.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty : 2nd Lieut. J. H. Parry, 2nd Lieut. W. E. Parry.

*23rd.* A draft of 6 rank and file joined the battalion.

*28th.* The battalion marched into billets at Amplier.

*29th.* The battalion marched into billets at Neuville. A draft of 24 rank and file joined the battalion.

*30th.* The battalion marched into billets at Haute Côte.

*31st.* The battalion marched into billets at Bethonsart.

*February 7th.* The battalion marched into billets at Hauteville.

*11th.* The battalion, less one company, marched into billets at Arras, one company relieving a company of the 9th battalion, Royal Fusiliers, in the support trenches in front of Arras.

A draft of 67 rank and file joined the battalion, with the



## 66 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

following Officers : Lieut. W. J. D. Hale, rejoining, and 2nd Lieut. T. E. Williams.

*February 12th.* Captain H. Hall-Morgan assumes acting appointment of Second-in-Command vice Major E. H. Howard, attached to Brigade Headquarters, 76th Brigade.

*15th.* The battalion relieved the 1st Gordon Highlanders in the trenches.

*17th.* Casualties—killed : No. 55133 Pte. W. Schofield ; wounded : No. 55071 L/Corpl. E. Murphy, No. 54950 Pte. C. Lomas.

*19th.* The battalion, less one company, was relieved in the trenches by the 1st Gordon Highlanders, and marched into billets at Arras.

A draft of 49 rank and file joined the battalion with the following Officers : 2nd Lieut. J. Thomson and 2nd Lieut. C. W. Jones.

*23rd.* The battalion relieved the 1st Gordon Highlanders in the Arras trenches.

*26th.* Casualty—wounded : No. 33895 L/Sergt. S. Powell.

*27th.* Casualties—died of wounds : No. 15178 Pte. E. Strode ; wounded : No. 19897 Pte. W. Davies, No. 55646 Pte. S. Lewis, No. 54890 Pte. W. Turner.

*28th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 1st battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, and marched into billets at Hautville.

### *Casualties—Killed*

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 56035 Pte. T. Smith    | No. 33881 L/Corpl. S. Stone |
| No. 55088 Pte. R. Smallman | No. 37787 Pte. T. Owen      |
| No. 55068 Pte. T. Meredith | No. 43959 Pte. A. Wilkinson |
| No. 19801 Pte. T. Lewis    | No. 27024 Pte. H. Forster   |
| No. 24125 Pte. G. Thompson | No. 43990 Pte. G. Tudor     |

### *Wounded*

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 33870 Pte. W. Lane       | No. 55091 Pte. E. W. Way     |
| No. 54888 Pte. F. Thomas     | No. 54860 Pte. H. Millichamp |
| No. 56010 Pte. W. Buttle     | No. 20828 Pte. E. J. F. Hall |
| No. 54928 Pte. W. E. Howells | No. 55569 Pte. J. Lloyd      |
| No. 44614 Pte. W. Bentley    | No. 54914 Pte. G. J. Carter  |

*March 2nd.* 2nd Lieut. Edwin G. Williams joined the battalion for duty.

*5th.* 2nd Lieut. J. A. James joined the battalion for duty.

*March 6th.* The battalion was inspected by Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, G.C.B., etc., Commander-in-Chief. Report as follows: "The Commander-in-Chief expressed his highest praise and entire satisfaction on the turn-out of this battalion."

*7th-15th.* The battalion was in billets at Hautville and employed at battalion training, and furnishing working parties.

*16th.* The battalion marched into billets at Berlencourt.

*17th.* Captain M. Murray rejoined the battalion for duty.

*18th.* Lieut. D. E. Davies joined the battalion for duty.

*25th.* 2nd Lieut. A. P. Comyns, and one private, joined the battalion.

*31st.* A draft of 13 rank and file joined the battalion.

*April 4th.* The battalion marched into billets at Wanquetin.

*5th.* Major A. J. S. James rejoined the battalion and resumed his appointment as Second-in-Command.

*6th.* The battalion vacated its billets at Wanquetin, and at 7 p.m. marched for Arras. The evening was wet and cold. The battalion arrived at Arras at about 10 p.m. and was billeted in cellars in the Rue Ronville, close to the railway station.

The next two days, 7th and 8th April, were spent by the Officers in reconnoitring their assembly positions, and in observing wire-cutting progress in the neighbourhood of Tilloy

#### THE BATTLE OF ARRAS

*8th.* At 7 p.m. the battalion left the cellars for their assembly positions and were ready in position by 11 p.m.

At midnight a final conference was held at battalion headquarters. Zero hour was at 5.30 a.m. on the 9th April; a slight rain was then falling.

Our artillery barrage was magnificent, and the battalion went over the parapet in splendid order, and an hour later they had taken their objective, and commenced consolidation.

2nd Lieut. J. C. E. Davies was hit early in the advance, and unfortunately succumbed to his injuries, and the Medical Officer, Lieut. E. Evans (Royal Army Medical

## 68 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Corps), was killed by a shell while tending the wounded. Captain W. S. Brocklehurst, and 2nd Lieuts. T. E. Williams and T. Rea were wounded, the latter by a chance shell which burst amongst a platoon of D Coy. when leaving Arras for their assembly trenches. The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel Compton-Smith, and 2nd Lieut. C. W. Jones, were also slightly wounded.

The attack of the 3rd Division was temporarily held up in front of its third objective, but by noon on the following day, 10th April, all resistance had been overcome, and all objectives gained.

At about midday orders were received to be prepared to move forward at an hour's notice, and at 2.45 a.m., on the 11th April, the battalion moved forward to Feuchy-Chapelle preparatory to making an attack on Guémappe. In this attack the battalion was to act as support to the 2nd Suffolk Regiment and 8th The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).

There was a considerable amount of hostile shelling during the forming up in the positions of assembly; our own artillery barrage was quite inadequate to deal with the situation, and the hostile barrage and machine-gun fire was very heavy.

Zero hour was at 7 a.m., and by 7.30 a.m. the attack was held up with its left on Les Fosses Farm, and its right on the ridge overlooking Guémappe.

The situation remained unaltered throughout the day, though, at 2.30 p.m., the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders, backed up by a considerable reinforced artillery barrage, attacked most gallantly but with no better success, and the Brigade was eventually relieved at midnight on the line it held.

It would be impossible to praise too highly the behaviour of the men during this exceedingly trying day. The night was bitterly cold and the men had been practically without sleep for three days.

Throughout the day they had been subjected to very severe shell, and machine-gun fire.

Casualties during the First Battle of the Scarpe.

### *Killed in Action*

Lieut. E. Evans (R.A.M.C.)

2nd Lieut. E. Williams

*Killed in Action—(cont.)*

|                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 15433 Sergt. H. Watson      | No. 40161 Pte. M. Williams     |
| No. 40849 Sergt. S. Evans       | No. 54861 Pte. W. F. Martin    |
| No. 15729 Corpl. G. H. Prosser  | No. 55647 Pte. S. Pritchard    |
| No. 57071 L/Corpl. A. Humphreys | No. 54903 L/Corpl. E. J. Brown |
| No. 56011 L/Corpl. A. Cross     | No. 56047 Pte. F. Frost        |
| No. 55074 Corpl. S. A. Parker   | No. 44130 Pte. T. S. Jones     |
| No. 555553 Pte. V. Ashes        | No. 40947 Pte. W. Lewis        |
| No. 14230 Pte. W. Lewis         | No. 39154 Pte. T. J. Roberts   |
| No. 12522 Pte. T. Jennings      | No. 20698 Pte. D. Jones        |
| No. 34987 Pte. A. W. Cornwall   | No. 55565 Pte. A. L. E. Willey |
| No. 13603 Pte. W. Dunkley       | No. 36480 Pte. C. F. Blunt     |
| No. 54841 Pte. J. Dean          | No. 16647 Pte. J. Dyer         |
| No. 37205 Pte. H. McCandlish    | No. 56030 Pte. W. R. Pearman   |
| No. 54902 Pte. J. Bradshaw      | No. 56044 Pte. F. Arthey       |
| No. 25905 Pte. E. M. Ryan       | No. 39066 Pte. E. Lloyd        |
|                                 | No. 36819 Pte. P. Raynor       |

*Died of Wounds*

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2nd Lieut. J. C. E. Davies | 2nd Lieut. J. W. Broxup         |
| No. 1111 Pte. J. Jenkins   | No. 15045 Sergt. R. N. Phillips |
| No. 9442 Pte. M. Lynch     | No. 55040 Pte. J. Butterfield   |
| No. 44292 Pte. S. Jones    | No. 15824 Pte. E. T. Roberts    |
| No. 36145 Pte. M. Maloney  | No. 44208 Pte. R. R. Williams   |
| No. 54922 Pte. E. Edwards  |                                 |

*Wounded*

|                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Captain W. S. Brocklehurst            | Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Compton-Smith |
| 2nd Lieut. T. Rea                     | 2nd Lieut. C. W. Jones             |
| 2nd Lieut. J. Thomson                 | 2nd Lieut. J. M. Wardlaw           |
| 2nd Lieut. H. D. Taylor               | 2nd Lieut. J. A. James             |
| 2nd Lieut. T. E. Williams             | No. 13582 Pte. A. Davies           |
| No. 15181 Coy. Sergt.-Major G. Bowen  | No. 5492 Pte. S. Edwards           |
| No. 15159 Sergt. D. Rees              | No. 57009 Pte. F. Fitzpatrick      |
| No. 15402 L/Sergt. J. Ames            | No. 36520 Pte. D. Fletcher         |
| No. 34502 L/Sergt. T. P. L. Griffiths | No. 22110 Pte. B. Ford             |
| No. 14915 L/Sergt. S. P. Parry        | No. 56012 Pte. D. Gent             |
| No. 16298 Corpl. P. Murphy            | No. 36912 Pte. T. Harrison         |
| No. 6522 Corp. A. Smart               | No. 2186 Pte. L. Hill              |
| No. 10009 Corpl. W. Webb              | No. 44387 Pte. E. Johnson          |
| No. 17704 L/Corpl. G. Chadd           | No. 12367 Pte. A. E. Jellicoe      |
| No. 9222 L/Corpl. G. Davies           | No. 22079 Pte. J. Jones            |
| No. 17068 L/Corpl. E. T. James        | No. 55650 Pte. S. Lightfoot        |
| No. 22040 Corpl. C. B. Arnold         | No. 40383 Pte. F. H. Jones         |
| No. 55568 Pte. H. Barlow              | No. 34177 Pte. D. W. Morgan        |
| No. 54907 Pte. E. J. Borton           | No. 54959 Pte. W. O'Grady          |
| No. 15166 Pte. C. A. Bailey           | No. 34361 Pte. B. Price            |
| No. 57046 Pte. E. A. F. Chivers       | No. 34920 Pte. S. T. Rowlands      |
| No. 15133 Pte. W. R. Davies           | No. 34142 Pte. F. Richards         |
|                                       | No. 15048 Pte. E. Rees             |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                                         |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| No. 55648 Pte. H. Scott                 | No. 54931 L/Corpl. H. D. Hall         |
| No. 56009 Pte. H. Taylor                | No. 55658 Pte. W. Barnfield           |
| No. 33559 Pte. T. Lewis                 | No. 56031 Pte. A. White               |
| No. 20989 Pte. T. Owens                 | No. 9354 Pte. G. Bishop               |
| No. 15256 Sergt. J. Jones               | No. 29603 Pte. W. L. Batcup           |
| No. 56001 Sergt. J. W. Little-child     | No. 54972 Pte. M. Smith               |
| No. 54876 L/Corpl. G. H. Redmond        | No. 25613 Pte. J. Hughes              |
| No. 33994 L/Corpl. R. Jenkins           | No. 6022 Pte. T. H. Baker             |
| No. 18150 L/Corpl. W. H. John           | No. 54880 Pte. H. Smith               |
| No. 54911 Pte. J. W. E. Conley          | No. 40371 Pte. J. F. Williams         |
| No. 55042 Pte. W. Carman                | No. 44036 Pte. W. Jones               |
| No. 33694 Pte. J. Copeland              | No. 56904 Pte. W. Beddowes            |
| No. 31181 Pte. W. Davies                | No. 28005 Pte. W. Maginn              |
| No. 55643 Pte. W. J. Davies             | No. 17556 Pte. D. Coleridge           |
| No. 57086 Pte. D. Evans                 | No. 39126 Pte. R. Williams            |
| No. 56049 Pte. H. Edwards               | No. 11054 L/Corpl. J. Chester         |
| No. 41786 Pte. J. Fury                  | No. 20238 Pte. J. W. Thomas           |
| No. 33745 Pte. W. Hillier               | No. 23980 Pte. G. Lewis               |
| No. 54740 Pte. W. K. Jones              | No. 23682 Pte. E. Leech               |
| No. 44249 Pte. J. H. Jones              | No. 13318 Pte. C. Smith               |
| No. 43989 Pte. D. W. Jones              | No. 33057 Pte. E. Wilkinson           |
| No. 19287 Pte. W. J. Lewis              | No. 10932 Pte. A. Milner              |
| No. 26088 Pte. E. Lloyd                 | No. 24599 Pte. T. Richardson          |
| No. 27434 Pte. W. H. Lawless            | No. 54910 Pte. H. Chidley             |
| No. 54863 Pte. A. Moss                  | No. 55069 Pte. J. Morris              |
| No. 36536 Pte. R. Owens                 | No. 15546 Coy. Qr.-Mr. W. E. Phillips |
| No. 54866 Pte. E. Y. Price              | No. 25394 Sergt. D. Hughes            |
| No. 55075 Pte. W. L. Price              | No. 56000 Sergt. R. E. Bradbury       |
| No. 54877 Pte. A. Ross                  | No. 32500 Sergt. A. Barry             |
| No. 44225 Pte. A. Roberts               | No. 55654 Sergt. T. Tedstone          |
| No. 55997 Pte. H. J. Skinner            | No. 36887 L/Sergt. S. A. Powell       |
| No. 54887 Pte. A. Tunley                | No. 54894 Corpl. S. Woodhouse         |
| No. 54884 Pte. A. Thomas                | No. 23442 L/Corpl. G. Spencer         |
| No. 54891 Pte. W. J. Vowles             | No. 4643 L/Corpl. T. Cuffe            |
| No. 44355 Pte. J. R. Wright             | No. 265754 L/Corpl. H. Williams       |
| No. 24945 L/Corpl. D. Rogers            | No. 38857 Pte. T. Chick               |
| No. 55716 Pte. J. R. Evans              | No. 34058 Pte. G. Cole                |
| No. 11128 Pte. J. Hughes                | No. 56019 Pte. S. S. Debonnaire       |
| No. 7990 Coy. Sergt.-Major C. H. Taylor | No. 15678 Pte. H. W. Evans            |
| No. 57053 Sergt. S. Bolver              | No. 36613 Pte. W. Edgar               |
| No. 57032 Sergt. F. Abercromby          | No. 55047 Pte. J. Grupman             |
| No. 21083 Sergt. J. E. Booth            | No. 37398 Pte. H. Jones               |
| No. 9495 Sergt. J. Jones                | No. 54993 Pte. L. Jackson             |
| No. 22770 Corpl. P. F. Witten           | No. 54992 Pte. J. G. Johnson          |
| No. 15585 Corpl. H. Smith               | No. 23326 Pte. J. Morris              |
| No. 35833 L/Corpl. J. Curley            | No. 54962 Pte. W. J. Pickers          |
| No. 55655 L/Corpl. L. W. Lewis          | No. 54882 Pte. S. Scoging             |
|                                         | No. 54972 Pte. J. H. Stevenson        |
|                                         | No. 54977 Pte. J. Thorley             |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 53111 Pte. E. C. Vaughan | No. 15698 Pte. E. T. Ludlow  |
| No. 54893 Pte. A. Ward       | No. 23435 Pte. A. Prandle    |
| No. 54982 Pte. G. Woodhouse  | No. 55076 Pte. P. Preece     |
| No. 55554 Pte. G. Roberts    | No. 40963 Pte. E. Rowlands   |
| No. 54935 Pte. J. Jennings   | No. 39298 Pte. J. H. Starkey |
| No. 55662 Pte. J. Morgan     | No. 55663 Pte. J. Thompson   |
| No. 10515 Pte. T. Rogers     | No. 16314 Pte. D. Williams   |
| No. 36399 Pte. W. Edmunds    | No. 55069 Pte. T. Whittle    |
| No. 13576 Pte. J. Edwards    | No. 44193 Pte. W. C. Thomas  |
| No. 56048 Pte. G. Eade       | No. 56021 Pte. F. R. Dyke    |
| No. 54991 Pte. L. H. Hill    | No. 34353 Pte. J. Jones      |
| No. 33871 Pte. T. Hume       | No. 33880 Pte. O. Richards   |
| No. 56993 Pte. A. Jones      | No. 55552 Pte. A. Morris     |

*Missing*

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| No. 55555 Pte. G. C. Catling | No. 54734 Pte. R. Jones   |
| No. 54968 Pte. J. Reid       | No. 26392 Pte. J. Clayton |

*April 14th.* The battalion was relieved and marched into billets at Arras. Lieut. F. W. Harrowell, Royal Army Medical Corps, assumed medical charge of the battalion vice Lieut. E. Evans, Royal Army Medical Corps, killed in action.

*18th.* A draft of 68 rank and file joined the battalion.

*19th.* 2nd Lieut. C. W. Rowlands joined the battalion for duty.

*21st.* A draft of 34 rank and file joined the battalion, and 2nd Lieut. C. W. Wilmore rejoined for duty.

*23rd.* The battalion marched out of Arras and occupied trenches at Bois-des-Bœufs. 2nd Lieut. J. G. Williams was appointed Regimental Quartermaster, with honorary rank of Lieut., vice Honorary Lieut. and Quartermaster E. H. Chapman, transferred to the Army Pay Corps.

*24th.* At 4.30 a.m., the battalion moved forward into the "Brown-line" trenches, which are situated 2500 yards west of Monchy and were the old German third line system, and at 10.30 p.m. relieved the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the Monchy trenches.

*Killed in Action*

No. 14526 Pte. J. Harris

*Wounded*

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 56006 Pte. W. Challis  | No. 13526 Pte. P. Thompson  |
| No. 46162 Pte. W. J. Bryne | No. 15149 Sergt. H. Hartley |

*April 25th.**Killed in Action*

2nd Lieut. H. Curran

*Wounded*

|                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| No. 57030 Sergt. J. Hollis     | No. 13146 L/Corpl. O. T. Trehearne |
| No. 40960 Pte. W. J. Brown     | No. 44270 Pte. W. Heighway         |
| No. 62881 Pte. W. Crompton     | No. 54862 Pte. T. H. Mathews       |
| No. 43797 Pte. D. Owen         | No. 200334 Pte. B. Soden           |
| No. 55560 Pte. D. H. Jones     |                                    |
| No. 54432 L/Corpl. E. Thompson |                                    |

*26th.*

|                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 19660 L/Corpl. J. Hardacre  | No. 35257 Pte. J. Wilkinson |
| No. 34946 L/Corpl. H. G. Thomas | No. 35055 Pte. C. Murphy    |
| No. 44278 Pte. C. J. Markham    | No. 21279 Pte. J. Jones     |
| No. 55090 Pte. A. J. Wyre       | No. 39533 Pte. G. Atkinson  |
| No. 241546 Pte. J. Hughes       | No. 45117 Pte. W. Hughes    |

*27th.**Killed*

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 23233 Pte. B. Lewis      | No. 23279 Pte. T. Parbutt     |
| No. 40579 Pte. E. Rowlands   | No. 10199 Pte. W. Groom       |
| No. 15028 Pte. J. Benjamin   | No. 35324 Pte. R. S. Lonsdale |
| No. 235023 Pte. W. R. Gould  | No. 56033 Pte. R. T. Wright   |
| No. 56312 Pte. F. A. Gitson  | No. 14193 Pte. J. Osborne     |
| No. 235443 Pte. G. M. Powell | No. 56005 Pte. W. Bennett     |

*Wounded*

|                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 33299 Corpl. P. Greenridge   | No. 56772 Pte. E. V. Roberts |
| No. 55672 Corpl. G. Thomas       | No. 15038 Pte. W. Mainwaring |
| No. 29573 L/Corpl. T. O. Edwards | No. 24265 Pte. E. Condliffe  |
| No. 55065 Pte. P. Lewis          | No. 201282 Pte. W. L. Davies |
| No. 63948 Pte. P. Clifford       | No. 35115 Pte. C. J. Culpitt |
| No. 235103 Pte. C. Hemming       | No. 235033 Pte. W. C. Cowan  |
| No. 45055 Pte. T. Wells          | No. 56775 Pte. A. V. Roberts |
| No. 56013 Pte. G. Linham         | No. 200290 Pte. W. Jones     |
| No. 54729 Pte. O. Hughes         | No. 54921 Pte. A. H. Eeles   |
| No. 200129 Pte. W. Jones         | No. 55656 Pte. A. Pearce     |
| No. 15292 Pte. T. Lennon         | No. 15793 Pte. G. R. Evans   |
| No. 32581 Pte. H. Thomas         | No. 56295 Pte. T. W. Blake   |
| No. 11290 Corpl. J. Condon       | No. 54926 Pte. J. Hinds      |
| No. 15409 L/Corpl. W. J. Tyson   | No. 27068 Pte. W. R. Wright  |
| No. 16369 L/Corpl. F. Cowan      | No. 54960 Pte. W. Pheysey    |
| No. 25887 Pte. H. Thomas         | No. 17873 Pte. R. H. Jones   |

*28th.**Killed in Action*

Captain W. J. D. Hale

*Wounded*

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 17630 Sergt. W. Miles  | No. 48866 L/Corpl. J. Preece  |
| No. 34007 Sergt. A. Smith  | No. 267068 Pte. W. T. Graham  |
| No. 55644 Pte. G. Haigh    | No. 44349 Pte. O. Jones       |
| No. 14659 Pte. S. Williams | No. 55053 Pte. T. Howard      |
| No. 26704 Pte. R. Clements | No. 56763 Pte. W. Tuckley     |
| No. 4400 Pte. R. Jones     | No. 55675 Pte. W. Stonebridge |
| No. 14660 Pte. J. Roberts  |                               |

*April 29th.*

*Killed in Action*

|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 235034 Pte. W. R. Evans | No. 52237 Pte. C. J. Behrens |
| No. 40725 Pte. J. Wilkinson | No. 57092 Pte. C. Newton     |

*Died of Wounds*

No. 15178 Pte. H. Strode

*Wounded*

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 22741 Corpl. A. F. Warren | No. 43166 Pte. A. Bainbridge  |
| No. 34799 Pte. A. D. Lathwell | No. 291215 Pte. J. T. Roberts |

*30th.*

*Killed in Action*

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 44639 Pte. D. Davies   | No. 23155 Pte. J. Wright      |
| No. 54920 Pte. J. Evans    | No. 26690 Pte. J. W. Hayhurst |
| No. 27046 Pte. W. Shepherd |                               |

*Wounded*

|                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| No. 11524 Pte. R. Hughes       | No. 15020 Pte. J. Bassett (by gas) |
| No. 18316 L/Corpl. C. W. Jones |                                    |
| No. 20822 Pte. T. Land         | No. 25385 Pte. D. Jones            |
| No. 56024 Pte. H. V. Piper     | No. 22225 Pte. A. D. Newman        |

*May 1st.*

*Killed in Action*

No. 56997 Sergt. J. Parry

*Died of Wounds*

2nd Lieut. Edwin G. Williams

*Wounded*

2nd Lieut. A. G. Williams

|                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 25767 Pte. D. T. Reynolds | No. 34897 Sergt. W. Webb    |
| No. 24911 Pte. G. H. Hanley   | No. 62641 Pte. J. H. Davies |

This eight-day tour of duty in the Monchy trenches was a costly one to the battalion, the casualties amounting to 3 Officers and 24 other ranks killed in action; and one Officer and 85 other ranks wounded.



*May 3rd.* In the morning the battalion was relieved in the Monchy trenches by the 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers at 2 a.m., and after relief returned to the old German trenches, third line, at Tilloy.

At night, a party of the battalion, strength 5 Officers and 160 rank and file, under Command of Major A. J. S. James, M.C., proceeded, under a very heavy barrage of H.E. and gas shells, to hold the Monchy defences. This party had great difficulty in reaching their objective. The remainder of the battalion moved to the trenches east of Bois-des-Bœufs.

#### *Wounded*

2nd Lieut. F. A. Lawson (by gas)

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| No. 235035 Pte. W. J. Harvey | No. 56989 L/Corpl. B. Hodgkinson |
| No. 202536 Pte. R. Thomas    | No. 56007 Pte. J. Evans          |
| No. 40003 Pte. R. Owens      | No. 48879 Pte. H. C. Ellis       |
| No. 54966 Pte. T. W. Roberts | No. 54445 Pte. J. Jones          |
| No. 235045 Pte. T. Charles   | No. 54970 Pte. H. Rowlands       |
| No. 5290 Pte. P. S. Tucker   | No. 15226 Pte. W. Jones          |
| No. 55063 Pte. R. Lucas      |                                  |
| No. 235049 Pte. W. Jones     |                                  |

*5th.* The battalion moved to trenches near Tilloy, and at 11 p.m. the detachment under Command of Major A. S. J. James was relieved by the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment, and rejoined the battalion.

Casualties—missing : No. 45030 Pte. T. Davies.

*10th.* At night the battalion moved to Monchy and relieved the 13th battalion King's (Liverpool Regiment) in the trenches.

Casualties—killed : No. 56783 Pte. W. Wroe.

Two platoons of D Coy. and two platoons of A Coy. were attached to the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders for relief duties and reported at that battalion's headquarters at 9.30 p.m., in the "Brown-line." These four platoons rejoined the battalion during the same night, on completion of relief.

*11th.* Casualties—killed : No. 291212 Pte. H. Davies.

*12th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 55055 Pte. J. Jackson.

*13th.* Casualties—killed : No. 12979 L/Sergt. R. Jones, No. 23553 Pte. C. Maskery.

*May 14th.**Killed*

No. 235027 Pte. G. J. Linham      No. 235028 Pte. J. Marshall  
 No. 39311 L/Corpl. G. H. Jones      No. 54732 Pte. J. H. Jones

*Missing*

No. 53746 Pte. T. Jones

*Wounded*

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Captain H. Pritchard         | 2nd. Lieut. C. W. Jones        |
| 2nd Lieut. A. P. Comyns      |                                |
| No. 28220 Pte. E. Kale       | No. 37148 Pte. J. Kerfoot      |
| No. 267089 Pte. C. A. Browne | No. 201348 Pte. E. A. Chew     |
| No. 20246 Pte. W. Drury      | No. 54915 Pte. G. Duggan       |
| No. 12886 Pte. W. Jones      | No. 235048 Pte. D. S. Evans    |
| No. 55059 Pte. H. Lewis      | No. 40160 Pte. T. O. Jones     |
| No. 57098 Pte. H. Walshaw    | No. 290590 Pte. F. W. Chandler |

15th. In the early morning the battalion was relieved by 1½ Coys. King's Own Scottish Borderers, and ½ Coy. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and moved back to the old German third line at Tilloy, and at 7.30 a.m. marched to Arras Station, and from there were taken in motor-lorries to camp at Duisans.

17th. The battalion marched into billets at Lattre-Saint-Quentin.

18th. The battalion marched into billets at Berlencourt. Captain E. H. Howard rejoined and resumed his appointment as Adjutant.

26th. The following Officers joined the battalion for duty : 2nd Lieut. J. H. Jones, 2nd Lieut. W. A. Richards, and 2nd Lieut. G. A. Hall rejoined for duty.

27th. A draft of 10 rank and file joined the battalion.

29th. 2nd Lieut. D. L. Jenkins joined the battalion for duty.

31st. The award of the following decorations was announced :

Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Compton-Smith, Distinguished Service Order.

Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Compton-Smith, Legion d'Honneur (Chevalier).

Captain M. Watcyn-Williams, Military Cross.

No. 15149 Sergt. H. Hartley, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 15149 Sergt. H. Hartley, Military Medal.

## 76 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

The following also received the Military Medal: No. 15020 Pte. J. Bassett, No. 36978 Pte. J. E. Parry, No. 15042 Sergt. J. Ames, No. 25394 Sergt. D. Hughes, No. 15081 Pte. D. Hughes, No. 57047 Corpl. S. Edge, No. 54408 Pte. F. Jenks, No. 54961 Pte. D. P. Parry, and an additional Bar for Military Medal to No. 15286 Pte. D. Waters.

*June 1st.* A draft of 160 rank and file and the following Officers joined the battalion: 2nd Lieut. Ll. Jones, 2nd Lieut. F. A. Stringer, 2nd Lieut. H. L. Williams, 2nd Lieut. R. A. Thomas.

*2nd.* The battalion marched to Ambrines and from there was conveyed in motor-lorries to billets in Cavalry Barracks, Arras.

*4th.* Captain J. H. Addie joined the battalion for duty.

*5th.* The battalion moved into billets in the Grande-Place, Arras.

*12th.* At night, the battalion, under heavy enemy shelling, took over the "Brown-line" trenches from the 8th battalion East Yorks Regiment.

*13th.* During the night the battalion moved up to trenches near Monchy, and, under heavy hostile shelling, relieved the 1st Gordon Highlanders.

### *Killed*

No. 56041 Pte. J. Brewer

### *Wounded*

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| No. 44247 Pte. C. Pritchard    | No. 60338 Pte. D. Frain    |
| No. 55070 Pte. J. Moulton      | No. 60344 Pte. R. Marsland |
| No. 60343 Pte. E. Owen         | No. 60315 Pte. N. Slater   |
| No. 60294 Pte. W. H. Schofield | No. 43934 Pte. W. Williams |
| No. 44614 Pte. W. Anderson     | No. 56046 Pte. F. H. White |
| No. 60352 Pte. G. S. Garnett   |                            |

*14th.* The 76th Brigade attacked, and took their objectives, Hook and Long Trenches, in spite of very obstinate resistance by the enemy.

### *Killed*

|                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 54462 Pte. H. E. Edmunds  | No. 44278 Pte. C. J. Markham |
| No. 56766 Pte. W. Stant       | No. 55985 Pte. E. Turrell    |
| No. 60340 Pte. A. V. Hewitt   | No. 60322 Pte. R. D. Jones   |
| No. 60224 Pte. R. H. T. Artis | No. 36581 Pte. S. J. Slater  |
| No. 49028 Pte. W. E. Davies   | No. 55952 Pte. C. Higgins    |

*Wounded*

Captain H. Hall-Morgan

|                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 34084 L/Sergt. A. Edwards    | No. 54956 Pte. C. Lomas         |
| No. 17178 L/Corpl. E. J. Elcock  | No. 53468 Pte. T. Haddock       |
| No. 241717 L/Corpl. F. Reeves    | No. 60323 Pte. R. W. Jones      |
| No. 60904 L/Corpl. J. Birmingham | No. 60419 Pte. S. Shuker        |
| No. 15714 L/Corpl. J. R. Jones   | No. 60131 Pte. J. H. Netherwood |
| No. 60308 Pte. A. Chapman        | No. 39138 Pte. F. Williams      |
| No. 235024 Pte. W. Himbury       | No. 60905 Pte. W. Humphreys     |
| No. 25630 Pte. R. T. Jones       | No. 60357 Pte. J. Brooks        |
| No. 60310 Pte. R. H. Johnson     | No. 266708 Pte. J. Jones        |
| No. 55081 Pte. A. Sidebottom     | No. 56038 Pte. T. Hilliard      |
| No. 15148 Pte. A. Sparkes        | No. 54889 Pte. C. Taylor        |
| No. 60402 Pte. A. Smith          | No. 235040 Pte. J. E. Ladd      |
| No. 60375 Pte. H. S. Hare        | No. 235041 Pte. W. B. Lewis     |
| No. 60306 Pte. A. Baguley        | No. 60420 Pte. F. J. Waring     |
| No. 60317 Pte. J. Reed           | No. 19493 Pte. T. H. Brockbank  |
| No. 16113 Pte. J. Law            | No. 201347 Pte. W. H. Davies    |
| No. 60305 Pte. D. Williams       | No. 55087 Pte. A. Grufman       |
| No. 56023 Pte. J. T. Clarke      | No. 23435 Pte. A. O. Prandle    |
| No. 55046 Pte. H. Greenhalgh     | No. 60413 Pte. T. Valentine     |

*Missing*

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No. 235013 Pte. C. Hemming | No. 235647 Pte. W. Jones |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|

*June 15th.* At 2.15 a.m. the enemy made a strong counter-attack against the position taken from them by the 76th Brigade on 14th instant, but were repulsed with considerable loss.

The Brigade retained the positions with exception of one advanced post.

*Killed*

No. 36462 Pte. A. Oates

*Wounded*

|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 54924 L/Corpl. G. Griffiths | No. 60328 Pte. W. F. Owen    |
| No. 5599 L/Corpl. L. Bowden     | No. 60216 Pte. E. Pierce     |
| No. 22060 Pte. F. Anson         | No. 41645 Pte. J. A. Kelly   |
| No. 15400 Pte. G. Chambers      | No. 54986 Pte. R. Hutchinson |
| No. 60209 Pte. R. Edwards       | No. 17873 Pte. R. H. Jones   |
| No. 60211 Pte. R. Jefferson     | No. 24599 Pte. T. Richardson |

*16th.* There was very heavy hostile shelling, especially on Shrapnel Trench, where battalion headquarters were established.

*Killed*

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 60196 Pte. F. Bailey     | No. 32548 Pte. J. McIntee    |
| No. 20914 Pte. W. Roberts    | No. 56010 Pte. E. Buttle     |
| No. 60354 Pte. T. G. Chaplin | No. 60358 Pte. S. G. Channon |
| No. 60386 Pte. J. W. Gibbs   | No. 60367 Pte. A. Hills      |
| No. 57050 Pte. E. Morris     | No. 48930 Pte. W. Messenger  |
| No. 49816 Pte. L. Thomas     | No. 60409 Pte. H. Trippier   |

*Wounded*

2nd Lieut. L. E. Roberts

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| No. 57004 Pte. R. Edwards     | No. 54420 L/Sergt. W. J. Milward |
| No. 60747 Pte. P. Hughes      | No. 235020 L/Corpl. F. Cogan     |
| No. 60408 Pte. F. W. Wasdell  | No. 34826 Pte. G. A. Lewis       |
| No. 66209 Pte. A. H. Cockayne | No. 60390 Pte. G. S. Pitman      |
| No. 60403 Pte. W. Stewart     | No. 60291 Pte. T. M. Webber      |

*Missing*

No. 60389 Pte. J. O'Donnell

*June 17th.* The 76th Brigade made an unsuccessful attempt to retake the advanced post it failed to hold on the 15th instant. There was heavy shelling by the enemy artillery.

*Killed*

|                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No. 56002 Sergt. T. G. Wilson | No. 56016 Pte. W. Dackombe  |
| No. 15486 L/Corpl. G. Wright  | No. 12365 Pte. F. Bwyne     |
| No. 6418 Pte. H. Pettinger    | No. 54696 Pte. J. C. Ardern |
| No. 23542 Pte. W. J. Lloyd    | No. 60377 Pte. J. Wright    |

*Wounded*

|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 14647 Sergt. J. T. Jones    | No. 15521 Corpl. J. Davies   |
| No. 60356 Pte. E. Burne         | No. 23968 L/Corpl. H. Yonds  |
| No. 57031 Pte. C. Kelly         | No. 20279 Pte. J. Jones      |
| No. 240167 Pte. G. Barker       | No. 15164 Pte. P. J. Roberts |
| No. 55062 Pte. A. Lloyd         | No. 55669 Pte. G. V. Lloyd   |
| No. 10436 Pte. W. Spencer       | No. 45129 Pte. R. M. Roberts |
| No. 60201 Pte. W. R. Brotherton | No. 60337 Pte. E. Burns      |
| No. 60298 Pte. E. Beynon        | No. 60309 Pte. L. Clarke     |

*18th.* The battalion in the Monchy trenches, which were heavily shelled throughout the day.

*Killed*

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lieut. L. P. Vernon, M.C.      | Lieut. D. E. Davies          |
| No. 39944 Corpl. H. Jones      | No. 60299 Pte. T. Clarke     |
| No. 4834 Corpl. J. E. Sinister | No. 56762 Pte. W. J. Roberts |

*Wounded*

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Captain O. S. Hughes         | 2nd Lieut. Ll. Jones            |
| No. 11097 Sergt. R. Williams | No. 56296 Pte. H. M. Batstone   |
| No. 13529 Corpl. J. Ferris   | No. 56034 Pte. F. C. Cornwall   |
| No. 56297 Pte. J. Bradley    | No. 56770 Pte. F. J. Williamson |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                              |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. 6353 Pte. W. D. Lewis    | No. 60300 Pte. E. Gill            |
| No. 33602 L/Sergt. F. Jervis | No. 44287 Pte. G. H. Pritchard    |
| No. 13814 L/Corpl. A. Butler | No. 55088 Pte. J. White (gas)     |
| No. 33871 Pte. T. Hume       | No. 60318 Pte. J. Stanfield (gas) |
| No. 235036 Pte. E. John      | No. 266867 Pte. J. Bradshaw       |
| No. 60906 Pte. F. Evans      | No. 60319 Pte. A. Thompson        |
| No. 44280 Pte. T. Griffiths  | No. 60198 Pte. W. King            |
| No. 63632 Pte. W. Holleran   | No. 40954 Pte. H. Roberts         |
| No. 64015 Pte. J. W. Massey  | No. 60679 Pte. H. Hewitt          |
| No. 54967 Pte. T. Roberts    | No. 17312 Pte. D. T. Dennis       |
| No. 60320 Pte. J. W. Wardle  | (gas)                             |
| No. 40180 Pte. H. T. Jones   | No. 60317 Pte. T. J. Steer (gas)  |

*Missing*

No. 60353 Pte. W. H. Grice

*June 19th.* Casualties—wounded: 2nd Lieut. F. A. Stringer, No. 27619 Sergt. A. W. Carpenter; missing: No. 63213 Pte. W. Epworth.

*20th.* In the early hours of the morning, the battalion was relieved in the Monchy trenches by the 8th battalion Royal Fusiliers, and marched to billets in the Cavalry Barracks, Arras. After midday, the battalion was conveyed in buses to Halloy (near Doullens) and went into billets where it remained for the next ten days.

The award of the Military Medal to the following was announced: No. 23410 Sergt. H. Mountford, No. 235021 Sergt. A. P. Carter, No. 235031 L/Corpl. F. Brown, No. 35071 L/Corpl. H. V. Major, No. 54953 L/Corpl. J. A. Leeder.

*20th.* Lieut. J. R. Williams joined the battalion for duty.

*27th.* Major A. J. S. James, M.C., was temporarily attached to the 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment.

*July 1st.* The battalion marched to Doullens, entrained there for Achiet-le-Grand, and thence marched into camp in Bihucourt area.

*3rd.* The battalion moved into Brigade reserve area, Velu Wood.

*6th.* A draft of 62 rank and file and the following Officers joined the battalion: 2nd Lieut. C. H. Elphick, 2nd Lieut. R. T. Owen, 2nd Lieut. D. C. Hunter.

*7th.* The battalion was inspected by the General Officer

## 80 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Commanding IVth Corps (Lieut.-General Sir C. L. Woollcombe, K.C.B.); and Major A. J. S. James rejoined the battalion and resumed his appointment of Second-in-Command.

*July 9th.* 2nd Lieut. T. M. Davies, with a draft of 10 rank and file, joined the battalion.

*10th.* The battalion moved into the trenches, and relieved the 8th battalion East Yorks Regiment in the Left Brigade Sector, Louverval trench area.

*15th.* The battalion carried out a successful bombing raid, and occupied an advanced post.

Casualties—wounded : Captain C. G. N. Morgan, M.C.

2nd Lieut. D. F. Davies, and a draft of 16 rank and file, joined the battalion.

*16th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 266976 Pte. H. Mayo.

*17th.* Casualties—killed : No. 21353 Pte. C. Davies; wounded : No. 33815 Pte. A. Rance, No. 54897 Pte. R. Aiken, No. 29318 Pte. B. W. Jones, No. 56032 Pte. B. Peachey.

*20th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 49814 Pte. A. E. Michael.

*21st.* Casualties—wounded : No. 20828 L/Corpl. J. Hall, No. 55557 Pte. W. Sargent.

*24th.* At night the battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and marched into camp at Frémicourt. The following Officers joined the battalion for duty : 2nd Lieut. E. Swainson, 2nd Lieut. R. P. Batty, 2nd Lieut. T. S. Jones, 2nd Lieut. F. Cross, 2nd Lieut. R. G. Smith-Owen, 2nd Lieut. R. V. Jones.

The award of the following decorations was announced :  
Captain C. G. N. Morgan, Bar to Military Cross.

Captain O. S. Hughes, Military Cross.

No. 15427 Pte. M. Hughes, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

*August 1st.* The battalion marched to the trenches and relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the Louverval line.

The following Officers joined the battalion for duty :  
Lieut. B. M. Alexander, Lieut. T. A. Evans, 2nd Lieut. S. A. H. Granville, Lieut. R. K. Holmes.

*3rd.* The enemy managed to raid an advanced post, but were broken up by machine-gun fire.

*August 4th.* Lieut. D. G. Isaacs and a draft of 13 rank and file joined the battalion, and Lieut. A. W. Fish rejoined for duty.

*5th.* Casualties—killed : No. 60355 Pte. R. J. Ashbury, No. 28306 Pte. P. H. Smith ; wounded : No. 11054 Pte. G. Chester, No. 60297 Pte. J. Willis, No. 33057 Pte. F. Wilkinson, No. 201073 Pte. J. Richards, No. 60366 Pte. T. Day.

*8th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 202158 Pte. J. J. Mitchell.

*9th.* The battalion, less A Coy., was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) and marched into camp at Frémicourt.

*11th.* 2nd Lieut. H. R. Davies and a draft of 8 rank and file joined the battalion, and Captain H. Pritchard, m.c., rejoined for duty.

*13th.* 2nd Lieut. J. D. Jones and a draft of 4 rank and file joined the battalion.

*14th.* C Coy. relieved A Coy. in the trenches, and the latter rejoined the battalion in camp at Frémicourt.

Casualties—wounded : No. 15005 Sergt. D. Griffiths.

*15th.* B Coy. relieved C Coy. in the trenches, and the latter rejoined the battalion in camp at Frémicourt.

Major F. A. Phillips (Montgomery Yeomanry) joined the battalion for duty.

*17th.* A and D Coys. relieved two companies of the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the trenches.

*18th.* C Coy. and battalion headquarters joined the remainder of the battalion in the trenches.

*19th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 54927 Pte. H. Hinks.

*22nd.* A draft of 16 rank and file joined the battalion in the trenches.

Casualties—wounded : No. 36846 Pte. L. Phillips, No. 44557 Pte. P. H. Smith.

*23rd.* C Coy. made a raid on the enemy trenches in the early morning.

Casualties—wounded : No. 54941 L/Corpl. J. Edwards, No. 56023 Pte. J. T. Clarke.

*25th.* The battalion, less C Coy., was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) and marched into camp at Frémicourt.



## 82 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

*August 26th.* A draft of 136 rank and file joined the battalion.

*29th.* D Coy. relieved C Coy. in the trenches, and the latter rejoined the battalion in camp at Fremicourt.

*30th.* A draft of 61 rank and file joined the battalion.

*31st.* Casualties—wounded : 2nd Lieut. J. H. Parry (died of wounds on 5th Sept.).

*September 2nd.* The battalion, less D Coy., relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the trenches.

*4th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 240982 Pte. G. Peters.

*6th.* The battalion was relieved by the 1/1st battalion London Regiment, and marched into camp at Barastre.

*10th.* 2nd Lieut. Elwyn G. Williams, and a draft of 6 rank and file, joined the battalion.

*16th.* All those who took part in the attack on Delville Wood on 20th July, 1916, visited in motor-omnibuses that locality.

*17th.* The battalion marched to Bapaume Station and entrained.

*18th.* The battalion detrained at Godersvelde, and marched into camp at Watou.

*21st.* Major A. J. S. James, 2nd Lieut. E. Swainson, and 27 other ranks proceeded to the trenches, to take over assembly positions for the 76th Brigade.

*23rd.* The battalion marched into camp at Brandhoek.

*25th.* The battalion entrained at Brandhoek, and at about 8 p.m. detrained at Ypres Asylum Railway Station, the train being bombed en route. Here the battalion was met by Lieut. Swainson and the guides (daily practised since the 16th instant) and were led, in column of platoons at 100 yards interval, to Brigade Headquarters at an enemy concrete redoubt just behind our position of assembly.

The platoons were here met by 2nd Lieut. J. T. Owen, who conducted them to their taped positions.

The rear company suffered casualties when crossing the Hannebeke. The battalion was safely in position by midnight.

*26th.* Our bombardment commenced at 3.40 a.m. (Battle of Polygon Wood), the enemy artillery retaliating thirty minutes later, inflicting severe casualties.

At zero hour the advance commenced in a heavy ground mist. The 76th Brigade was disposed as follows :

|                                             |   |                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8th battalion The King's Own (right)        | } | To take, and consolidate, the first objective ;             |
| 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders (left)     |   |                                                             |
| 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment (right)      | } | To pass through the leading line, and take final objective. |
| 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers (left) |   |                                                             |

The final objective included the village of Zonnebeke.

The leading troops lost direction to a certain extent, bearing to their left to avoid the Steenbeke. After crossing the Steenbeke, the advance continued towards the first objective. This was reached without suffering undue losses, and, under cover of our barrage, reorganization was carried on.

On the lifting of the barrage, the 10th Royal Welch Fusiliers continued their advance to the final objective. The ruins of an old hut caused some trouble, but on our working round the flanks, the garrison surrendered. It was during the final advance that the battalion suffered most.

After crossing the Zonnebeke, very few enemy were to be seen, and heavy machine-gun fire was coming from the direction of the railway station. The right company, however, succeeded in reaching the church, which was entered by Captain A. W. Fish and 14 men, closely followed by a few men of the Suffolk Regiment. The left was held up at a point 200 yards from the station with its left flank on the railway embankment.

Shortly afterwards touch was obtained with the Royal Scots Fusiliers on the other side of the embankment. There was a gap of about 200 yards between the right-half and left-half of the battalion.

This area was entirely swamp, and was covered by our flanks, and by a party of the 1st Gordon Highlanders, from the rear.

The enemy showed little fight during the advance, except when we were approaching our final objective. At one strong point, near St. Joseph's Institute, a German Officer

## 84 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

with 8 men and a machine-gun, surrendered to a Lance-Corporal. A large number of the enemy were captured, and a considerable number of their killed and wounded were found.

At 2.30 p.m. the first counter-attack was launched, but this was easily repulsed by our artillery, Lewis gun, and rifle fire.

About 7 p.m. the main counter-attack began. A large number of Germans succeeded in getting through our barrage, and reached a point 100 yards in front of our left company. They were held up by resolute steady Lewis gun and rifle fire, and very heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy irrespective of the losses occasioned by our artillery barrage. At this juncture the Brigade on our left was driven in, but owing to the determined fighting of the 76th Brigade, the left Brigade was able to restore the position later in the evening.

About this time Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Compton-Smith reported as a casualty at Brigade Headquarters, and Major A. J. S. James was sent for and assumed Command of the battalion.

The position in the front line at this time was very grave. Owing to the withdrawal of the left Brigade, the flank of the battalion was uncovered, and the majority of the men were down to their last clip of ammunition. 2nd Lieut. D. C. Hunter and 2nd Lieut. Elwyn G. Williams, however, immediately organized parties and collected a quantity of ammunition from casualties, and a party of the 1st Gordon Highlanders in rear at once responded to our call for S.A. ammunition and Lewis gun magazines. Rum and S.A. ammunition were sent up during the night, and the battalion reorganized as far as possible.

*September 27th.* At 6.30 p.m. another hostile counter-attack was observed, but it failed to seriously threaten our lines as our protective barrage again came down with splendid effect, and our Lewis guns caused very considerable losses.

During the afternoon a party of 8 German machine gunners, with gun, attempted to get into position near our right post, on Zonnebeke Church. Corpl. Thomas of A Coy. commanding the post, allowed them to approach within 30 yards and then opened fire, succeeding in killing

seven of the enemy and wounding the eighth. The corporal then ran out and brought in the wounded German and the machine-gun.

*September 28th.* At 6.10 p.m. the enemy were seen crossing our right-front, and we were able to inflict heavy losses on them by Lewis gun and rifle fire.

*29th.* The artillery activity on both sides greatly decreased, but the relief of the battalion by the 33rd battalion Australian Infantry was carried out with great difficulty owing to the bright moonlight, the relief being observed by the enemy who brought a considerable amount of machine-gun and rifle fire to bear on the relieving troops. After the relief had been carried out, the battalion marched back, via Ypres, and went into camp near Ypres Asylum.

The following casualties occurred during the operations from 25th-30th September :

*Killed in Action*

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lieut. D. L. Jenkins               | 2nd Lieut. T. S. Jones            |
| 2nd Lieut. C. W. Rowlands          |                                   |
| No. 8780 Sergt. W. Rowlands        | No. 56018 L/Corpl. W. Dunnicliffe |
| No. 54448 Sergt. H. S. Whittingham | No. 23570 L/Corpl. W. Brown       |
| No. 15005 Sergt. D. R. Griffiths   | No. 17364 L/Corpl. A. Gould       |
| No. 27272 Sergt. F. A. Brown       | No. 60516 Pte. R. J. Brown        |
| No. 43878 Sergt. P. Plevin         | No. 34584 Pte. A. B. Colbert      |
| No. 60442 Sergt. F. S. Cooper      | No. 60423 Pte. W. Harry           |
| No. 61233 Sergt. O. Ellis          | No. 29236 Pte. E. K. Thomas       |
| No. 63520 Sergt. J. Booth          | No. 54919 Pte. J. Dunn            |
| No. 14781 Sergt. J. Dunn           | No. 33875 Pte. J. R. Thomas       |
| No. 60292 Sergt. E. Luxford        | No. 28589 Pte. J. Ball            |
| No. 56690 Sergt. H. Hankins        | No. 21419 Pte. O. Griffiths       |
| No. 60431 Sergt. J. Brown          | No. 23296 Pte. A. Hearne          |
| No. 51438 Sergt. P. Ackers         | No. 44032 Pte. L. Piercy          |
| No. 60482 Sergt. J. Lamb           | No. 54944 Pte. A. Hamblett        |
| No. 54964 Sergt. P. A. Roberts     | No. 61260 Pte. E. W. Baxter       |
| No. 60991 Sergt. J. W. Griffiths   | No. 201255 Pte. W. Reynolds       |
| No. 54967 Sergt. T. Roberts        | No. 44137 Pte. S. Williams        |
| No. 60477 Sergt. E. Bailey         | No. 54953 Pte. L. Jackson         |
| No. 265653 Sergt. H. Jones         | No. 60428 Pte. E. Chamberlain     |
| No. 33224 L/Corpl. W. Howarth      |                                   |

*Died of Wounds*

|                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| No. 60468 Pte. G. H. Fletcher | No. 19388 Pte. J. W. Evans         |
| No. 33843 Pte. C. Taylor      | No. 72892 Pte. J. Hughes           |
| No. 60389 Pte. J. O'Donnell   | No. 60228 L/Corpl. F. E. Dickenson |
| No. 34135 Pte. W. O'Grady.    |                                    |

*Wounded*

Captain M. Watcyn-Williams  
M.C.

Lieut. D. G. Isaacs  
2nd Lieut. T. M. Davies  
2nd. Lieut. Elwyn G. Williams

No. 61118 Pte. D. R. Jones  
No. 61228 Pte. W. Jones  
No. 60432 Pte. H. Mills  
No. 40968 Pte. R. T. Roberts  
No. 60402 Pte. F. Shackleton  
No. 28717 Pte. T. Tindal  
No. 34045 Pte. E. J. Williams  
No. 235021 Sergt. A. P. Carter  
No. 57030 Sergt. J. Hollis  
No. 33602 Corpl. F. Jarvis  
No. 204354 L/Corpl. H. Salvage  
No. 22680 L/Corpl. W. Satterley  
No. 34047 Pte. W. Bullock  
No. 24265 Pte. E. Condliffe  
No. 39667 Pte. E. Davies  
No. 57004 Pte. R. Edwards  
No. 60369 Pte. T. Fothergill  
No. 15427 Pte. M. Hughes  
No. 60458 Pte. R. S. Hunts  
No. 15140 Pte. E. Jones  
No. 93882 Pte. J. Hyndeman  
No. 60400 Pte. H. Ripley  
No. 15922 Sergt. W. Davies  
No. 33997 Corpl. V. D. Carter  
No. 43969 L/Corpl. D. W. Jones  
No. 51331 L/Corpl. H. Altree  
No. 70153 Corpl. J. H. Sloman  
No. 61224 Pte. D. Jones  
No. 235036 Pte. G. R. Leonard  
No. 60222 Pte. H. Perrin  
No. 54602 Pte. H. Rolfe  
No. 53556 Pte. F. Taboin  
No. 44344 Pte. E. R. Williams  
No. 60452 Pte. J. H. Williams  
No. 35071 Corpl. H. V. Major  
No. 55076 Pte. C. Preece  
No. 60502 L/Corpl. H. Cordingley  
No. 235029 L/Corpl. H. J. Curtis  
No. 27614 L/Corpl. V. A. Bodger  
No. 235017 Pte. W. Bradley  
No. 60484 Pte. E. Dawson  
No. 15052 Pte. V. A. Eynon  
No. 44268 Pte. O. E. Evans  
No. 34093 Pte. C. M. Fryer

Captain F. H. Sewell  
2nd Lieut. S. A. H. Granville  
2nd Lieut. R. V. Jones  
2nd Lieut. A. P. Comyns  
2nd Lieut. D. C. Hunter

No. 235013 Pte. C. Hemming  
No. 59328 Pte. J. Hassell  
No. 60160 Pte. H. Dackombe  
No. 63882 Pte. R. T. Jones  
No. 235727 Pte. H. Sutton  
No. 54721 L/Sergt. R. L. Francis  
No. 31722 L/Corpl. J. Williams  
No. 13814 Pte. A. Butter  
No. 70144 Pte. R. Quartermain  
No. 235724 Pte. H. Williams  
No. 60225 Pte. R. E. A. Boyle  
No. 44205 Pte. E. W. Brewer  
No. 292855 Pte. J. Bolger  
No. 54198 Pte. T. Durham  
No. 54717 Pte. J. T. Evans  
No. 63778 Pte. F. J. Fidler  
No. 54930 Pte. A. Hall  
No. 14656 Pte. G. Jones  
No. 33297 Pte. T. Kenyon  
No. 26088 Pte. E. Lloyd  
No. 23450 Pte. C. Piff  
No. 14996 Pte. W. Roberts  
No. 20051 Pte. O. Roberts  
No. 60470 Pte. A. F. J. Smith  
No. 54351 Pte. J. Stevens  
No. 202431 Pte. P. Watts  
No. 60197 Pte. W. R. Williams  
No. 29093 Pte. E. T. Williams  
No. 15328 Pte. F. Charlton  
No. 54444 Pte. E. Griffiths  
No. 15455 Pte. R. Pugh  
No. 31966 Pte. R. Saxton  
No. 54945 Pte. W. T. Ellis  
No. 49027 Pte. S. Blythin  
No. 54407 Pte. E. James  
No. 15406 Sergt. C. Saunders  
No. 36057 L/Corpl. F. Birch  
No. 15524 Pte. J. Mantle  
No. 39145 Pte. W. Jones  
No. 60427 Pte. R. B. Scutt  
No. 20822 Pte. T. Land  
No. 233723 Pte. H. Payne  
No. 39982 Pte. J. E. Derry  
No. 15337 Pte. D. J. Beynon

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                                       |                                         |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| No. 60333 Pte. J. E. Bulley           | No. 33717 Pte. J. Fitzmorris            |
| No. 62875 Pte. W. Barlow              | No. 61253 Pte. J. Hughes                |
| No. 70142 Pte. T. Bradford            | No. 16313 Corpl. J. Law                 |
| No. 60472 Pte. R. H. Davies           | No. 13793 Sergt. R. Morgan              |
| No. 43068 Pte. J. Edmundson           | No. 54962 Pte. W. J. Pickers            |
| No. 21707 Pte. W. Hughes              | No. 60528 Pte. R. Rowlands              |
| No. 202354 Pte. A. J. Kesard          | No. 39126 Pte. J. T. Bell               |
| No. 201134 Pte. J. H. Jones           | No. 66209 Pte. A. H. Cockayne           |
| No. 41645 Pte. J. H. Kelly            | No. 44811 Pte. A. G. Cutting            |
| No. 51547 Pte. T. Mason               | No. 54706 Pte. E. Durnley               |
| No. 28798 Pte. B. Postell             | No. 70181 Pte. W. G. Davies             |
| No. 54877 Pte. A. Ross                | No. 26640 Pte. T. J. Elkin              |
| No. 70188 Pte. F. Rees                | No. 70145 Pte. W. Fishwick              |
| No. 56919 Pte. J. Symonds             | No. 61258 Pte. J. T. George             |
| No. 19012 Pte. A. Vaughan             | No. 60504 Pte. G. Shiers                |
| No. 53841 Pte. W. H. Williams         | No. 54789 Pte. J. Sandiford             |
| No. 60297 Pte. T. Willis              | No. 60319 Pte. H. Thompson              |
| No. 24187 L/Corpl. E. Green-<br>halgh | No. 60317 L/Corpl. T. J. Steer          |
| No. 56043 Pte. C. Fricke              | No. 39036 Pte. G. B. Owens              |
| No. 68392 Pte. J. Page                | No. 44041 Pte. E. J. Williams           |
| No. 560372 Pte. W. R. Wheeler         | No. 23238 L/Corpl. J. H. Wat-<br>kins   |
| No. 55077 Pte. W. R. Pritchard        | No. 60195 Pte. F. Bousall               |
| No. 240916 Pte. J. Williams           | No. 54953 Pte. J. A. Teeder             |
| No. 60971 Pte. J. Roberts             | No. 60315 Pte. T. Slater                |
| No. 54875 Pte. W. H. Rowlands         | No. 31233 Pte. J. W. Reed               |
| No. 15492 Sergt. P. Hughes            | No. 60410 Pte. J. Thomson               |
| No. 46323 L/Corpl. F. C. Johnson      | No. 55088 Pte. T. White                 |
| No. 57106 Pte. F. Richmond            | No. 60500 Pte. T. J. Iles               |
| No. 57091 L/Corpl. E. T. Moore        | No. 54936 Pte. R. Stevens               |
| No. 60370 Pte. H. Chase               | No. 235050 Pte. G. Morgan               |
| No. 17496 Pte. F. Heppersley          | No. 15420 Coy. Sergt.-Major H.<br>Green |
| No. 24478 L/Corpl. W. Guisberg        | No. 33739 Pte. W. Hart                  |
| No. 33821 L/Corpl. J. E. Russon       | No. 8717 Sergt. A. Jays                 |
| No. 44104 Pte. W. Randle              | No. 61230 Pte. R. L. Foulkes            |
| No. 39533 Pte. G. Atkinson            | No. 16120 Pte. G. Hughes                |
| No. 33852 Pte. R. Watkins             | No. 44370 Pte. W. Heighway              |
| No. 60464 Pte. J. Foy                 | No. 62865 Pte. P. Lamb                  |
| No. 24599 Pte. T. Richardson          | No. 60441 Pte. J. O'Grady               |
| No. 56025 Pte. T. Reeder              | No. 60481 Pte. W. Parry                 |
| No. 54943 Pte. J. Williams            | No. 60357 Pte. J. Brooks                |
| No. 34081 Pte. C. H. Brooks           | No. 4643 L/Corpl. T. Cuffe              |
| No. 20761 L/Corpl. R. Jones           | No. 60444 L/Corpl. J. F. Curry          |
| No. 55067 Pte. T. Minton              | No. 60335 Pte. M. O. Davies             |
| No. 235049 Pte. W. Jones              | No. 34917 Pte. P. Dowling               |
| No. 54976 Pte. R. Stevens             | No. 54916 Pte. W. E. Davies             |
| No. 54945 Pte. R. Jones               | No. 24834 Pte. R. C. Evans              |
| No. 60476 Pte. J. H. Barrell          | No. 60337 Pte. C. H. Renshaw            |
| No. 33542 Pte. J. F. Hill             | No. 23423 Pte. F. Green                 |
| No. 59390 L/Corpl. F. Jackson         |                                         |

*Wounded—(cont.)*

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| No. 42091 Pte. H. J. Sharp   | No. 31074 Pte. P. Afferion   |
| No. 22274 Pte. W. Skinner    | No. 33588 Pte. W. Kimber     |
| No. 16179 Pte. R. Williams   | No. 49012 Pte. A. Vaughan    |
| No. 61250 Pte. J. H. Charles | No. 15688 Sergt. H. Bramwell |
| No. 54415 Pte. J. Kynaston   | No. 34909 Pte. A. Peters     |
| No. 53111 Pte. B. H. Vaughan |                              |

*Missing*

|                               |                                           |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| No. 33905 Sergt. M. Whitehead | No. 70186 Pte. H. Setchfield              |
| No. 70137 Pte. E. W. Hall     | No. 200759 Pte. J. H. Wilde               |
| No. 55467 Pte. R. Thomas      | No. 68476 Pte. J. Williams                |
| No. 49861 Pte. R. Williams    | No. 54928 Pte. W. E. Howells              |
| No. 315677 Pte. T. Evans      | No. 70143 Pte. E. H. Kelly                |
| No. 70149 Pte. T. Jones       | No. 60381 Pte. T. Liney                   |
| No. 60341 Pte. A. Latham      | No. 60385 Pte. R. Matthews                |
| No. 60315 Pte. G. Mumford     | No. 41823 Pte. J. Minland                 |
| No. 70160 Pte. H. Manley      | No. 66291 Pte. J. Williams (also wounded) |
| No. 54881 Pte. W. Sutton      | No. 60434 Pte. H. Breakwell               |
| No. 70171 Pte. T. Gatocicas   | No. 70191 Pte. W. Hewitt                  |
| No. 33741 Pte. D. Hurley      | No. 70170 Pte. J. Counsell                |
| No. 53548 L/Corpl. J. Hill    | No. 44080 Pte. R. J. Jones                |
| No. 60324 Pte. W. B. Kirkman  | No. 55019 Pte. W. Parish                  |
| No. 33058 Pte. J. Atkinson    | No. 34335 Pte. J. Davies                  |
| No. 23965 Pte. W. Daniels     | No. 54546 Pte. W. T. Roberts              |
| No. 43689 Pte. J. Hughes      | No. 63739 Pte. E. Wright                  |
| No. 69415 Pte. J. Blount      |                                           |

*October 1st.* The battalion was in camp at Winnezele.

*3rd.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty: Lieut. G. W. Guttridge, 2nd Lieut. W. T. Phillips, 2nd Lieut. W. R. Rees, 2nd Lieut. F. M. Arnold, 2nd Lieut. D. E. Lawrence, 2nd Lieut. M. Jones, 2nd Lieut. J. T. Jones.

*4th.* The battalion marched to Arques and went into billets.

*5th.* The battalion marched to Wizernes and entrained.

*6th.* The battalion detrained at Bapaume, and at 5 p.m. marched into camp at Barastre.

Captain A. E. Humphreys-Owen joined the battalion for duty.

*9th.* The following appointments were made: 2nd Lieut. Elphick to be Intelligence Officer, 2nd Lieut. Kirkby to be Lewis gun Officer, 2nd Lieut. J. T. Jones to be Bombing Officer, and Captain J. R. Williams to be Acting Adjutant.

Captain W. A. Richards was appointed Brigade Intelligence Officer, and attached to the 76th Brigade.

*October 10th.* Captain R. A. Adamson and Lieut. A. Nevitt, m.c., rejoined the battalion for duty.

*11th.* The battalion proceeded on omnibuses to Mory and took over camp there.

*12th.* The following acting appointments were made, with effect from 28th September: Major A. J. S. James, m.c., to be Acting Lieut.-Colonel, Captain J. H. Addie to be Acting Major and Second-in-Command, and Lieut. A. W. Fish to be Acting Captain.

*19th.* The battalion entrained at Mory Abbey, detrained at Ecoust, and marched to the trenches, where it relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the Bullecourt Sector.

*21st.* Casualties—killed: 1 O.R.

A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion.

*22nd.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty: 2nd Lieut. R. E. Seel, 2nd Lieut. A. T. Worthington, and Lieut. W. B. Morgan rejoined the battalion and was appointed Acting Signalling Officer.

*24th.* A draft of 5 rank and file joined the battalion.

*26th.* Casualties—wounded: No. 23980 Pte. W. Lewis, No. 65591 Pte. J. Hughes, No. 135537 Pte. S. Jones.

*27th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and marched back into camp at Mory.

Captain the Rev. D. Picton-Evans, Chaplain to the Forces, was attached to the battalion vice Captain the Rev. D. C. Williams, m.c., transferred for duty at Kimmel Park Camp, North Wales.

*28th.* Captain C. J. F. Dent joined the battalion for duty.

*31st.* Lieut. J. G. Macaulay (Royal Army Medical Corps) assumed medical charge of the battalion.

*November 1st.* 2nd Lieut. J. R. Williams was appointed Acting Captain, with effect from 29th September.

The award of the following decorations, for operations at Zonnebeke on 26th September, was announced: Military Medal, No. 3924 Sergt. J. Edge, No. 20761 L/Corpl. R. Jones, No. 18534 Pte. W. H. Holden, No. 48879 Pte. H. E. Ellis, No. 203336 Pte. H. S. Evans, No. 24406 Pte. F. Parsons, No. 16022 Pte. H. Bailiff, No. 57030 Sergt. J. Hollis, No. 60451 Pte. A. Dutton, No. 4120 L/Sergt. J.



Harvey, No. 70158 Corpl. J. H. Sloman, No. 32565 Pte. W. Smith, No. 34150 Corpl. W. Skinner, No. 40940 Corpl. O. Jones; Military Medal, Bar to, No. 15427 Pte. M. Hughes, D.C.M., M.M.

*November 4th.* The battalion marched to the Bullecourt Sector, and relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the trenches.

*5th.* Casualties—died of wounds (gas): Lieut. H. W. Rayner (attached to 76th Trench Mortar Battery) and No. 135503 Pte. A. G. Jones; wounded (gas): No. 60376 Pte. A. Colley, No. 135603 Pte. F. Calder, No. 135631 Pte. W. H. Gilleard, No. 60503 Pte. W. H. Hall, No. 54847 Pte. R. P. Jones, No. 60438 Pte. H. Anscombe.

*7th.* Casualties—wounded: No. 55663 Pte. J. Thompson, No. 205118 J. Oakley, No. 135025 Pte. F. Jarman.

*8th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) and marched back to camp at Mory.

*9th.* A draft of 84 rank and file joined the battalion.

*11th.* A draft of 15 rank and file joined the battalion; and Lieut. F. A. Lawson rejoined for duty.

*12th.* Lieut. F. A. Lawson was attached for duty to 76th Trench Mortar Battery.

*14th.* A draft of 6 rank and file joined the battalion.

*16th.* The battalion marched to the Bullecourt Sector and relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the trenches.

*19th.* The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 12th battalion West Yorks Regiment, and marched into camp at Favreuil.

*20th.* A draft of 7 rank and file joined the battalion, and Lieut. E. T. Llewelyn joined for duty.

*22nd.* A draft of 80 rank and file joined the battalion.

*26th.* The battalion marched to the Bullecourt Sector and relieved the 12th battalion West Yorks Regiment; and 1½ Coys. of 4th battalion Royal Fusiliers, in the trenches.

Casualties—killed: No. 70152 Sergt. J. Rowlands, No. 33798 Pte. J. Lees; wounded: No. 205087 Pte. H. Cullis.

*28th.* A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion.

*29th.* Casualties—killed: No. 70186 L/Corpl. O. E. Jones, No. 42650 Pte. J. A. Parker, No. 10290 Pte. J.

Pritchard; wounded: No. 17178 Corpl. E. J. Elcock, No. 34769 Pte. A. A. Flagg, No. 15279 Pte. H. Stevens, No. 238066 Pte. H. Clarke, No. 55909 Pte. F. Austin, No. 54871 Pte. J. Pendlebury, No. 19286 Pte. M. Powell, No. 70141 Pte. H. Evans, No. 70499 Pte. J. Hodgson, No. 61152 Pte. H. Jones.

30th. The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and marched back to camp at Mory.

Casualties—wounded: No. 56756 Sergt. T. Williams, No. 54892 Pte. S. Woodhouse, No. 25589 Pte. R. Jones, No. 75325 Pte. R. Phillips.

The award of the following decorations, for operations at Zonnebeke on 26th September, was announced: Military Cross, Lieut. A. W. Fish, 2nd Lieut. D. C. Hunter.

December 1st. The battalion in camp at Mory, less D Coy. in the trenches.

2nd. A Coy. relieved D Coy. in the trenches.

3rd. Casualties—wounded: 2nd Lieut. A. T. Worthington, No. 202089 Pte. J. Dawson.

4th. The battalion, less A Coy., marched to the trenches and relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the right sub-section of the Bullecourt Sector.

6th. Casualties—wounded: No. 22441 Pte. E. Worman (gas), No. 35725 Pte. J. Jones.

9th. The battalion was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and marched to camp at Mory.

Casualties—wounded: No. 60314 Pte. J. Reed, No. 70529 Pte. J. Wood, No. 201815 Pte. W. Fuller, No. 69138 Pte. J. Thomas, No. 70584 Pte. L. Jacklin, No. 238099 Pte. J. Pratt, No. 205107 Pte. H. Jones.

11th. C Coy. marched to the Bullecourt trenches in support to the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).

A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion, and Lieut. T. A. Evans was transferred to the 19th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers.

12th. The battalion, less C Coy., marched to the line of defence, Ecoast—L'Homme Mort, and remained there until next morning.

*December 13th.* The battalion marched back to camp at Mory Abbey.

*14th.* Accidentally injured : No. 138795 Pte. J. Williams.

*17th.* The battalion, less C Coy., marched to the trenches and relieved the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in the right section of the Bullecourt Sector.

Accidentally injured : No. 55779 L/Corpl. S. Colwell.

*18th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 235019 Pte. J. Cook.

*20th.* Casualties—wounded : No. 135270 Sergt. C. O'Neill, No. 135010 Pte. R. T. Owens.

A draft of 6 rank and file joined the battalion.

*22nd.* Casualties—wounded : No. 70492 Pte. F. Garrett.

Captain R. A. Adamson was appointed Acting Second-in-Command vice Acting Major J. H. Addie, reported sick.

*23rd.* The battalion, less B Coy., was relieved in the trenches by the 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and marched back into reserve at Ecoust, B Coy. remaining in the trenches.

Casualties—wounded : No. 74955 Pte. J. Limerick ; accidentally injured : No. 42488 Pte. W. Pritchard.

*27th.* The battalion was relieved in reserve by the 13th battalion Yorkshire Regiment, and marched into camp at Mory.

A draft of 5 rank and file joined the battalion, and the following Officers joined for duty : 2nd Lieut. J. Overton, 2nd Lieut. J. W. Ellis.

*29th.* The battalion marched into camp at Blairville.

*30th.* Lieut. F. J. Cutler (Royal Medical Army Corps) assumed medical charge of the battalion.

*1918, January 2nd.* A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion. 2nd Lieut. D. C. Hunter, m.c., reported sick to hospital.

*3rd.* 2nd Lieut. C. D. Alltree joined the battalion for duty.

*4th.* 2nd Lieut. J. M. Wardlaw rejoined the battalion for duty.

*5th.* Lieut. D. E. Lawrence reported sick to hospital.

*6th.* Captain R. A. Adamson, Acting Second-in-Command, was granted acting rank of Major.

Captain A. W. Fish, m.c., reported sick to hospital.

*January 10th.* The battalion was inspected by the General Officer Commanding 76th Brigade.

*11th.* Major J. H. Addie was invalided to England.

*12th.* The battalion was inspected by the General Officer Commanding Vth Corps (Sir James Haldane, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O.).

A draft of 4 rank and file joined the battalion.

*13th.* Captain A. W. Fish, m.c., was invalided to England.

*14th.* Captain C. J. F. Dent reported sick to hospital.

*15th.* The following Officers joined the battalion for duty : 2nd Lieut. W. T. Jones, 2nd Lieut. J. Huxley, 2nd Lieut. G. H. Webb.

*21st.* A draft of 11 rank and file joined the battalion.

*22nd.* A draft of 3 rank and file joined the battalion.

*27th.* The battalion marched into camp at Carlisle Lines, Beau-Rains.

*28th.* A draft of 4 rank and file joined the battalion.

*30th.* The battalion marched to the trenches and relieved the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders, in the left sub-section of the Wancourt Sector, Guémappe trenches.

*31st.* The award of the following decorations was announced :

Captain A. Nevitt, m.c., the Albert Medal.

No. 5796 Acting Regimental Sergt.-Major W. Webb, D.C.M., the Military Cross.

No. 15724 Sergt. F. Gibbs, Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Captain F. H. Sewell, Croix-de-Guerre (Belgium).

No. 55058 Corpl. E. W. Hughes, Croix-de-Guerre (Belgium).

No. 15386 L/Corpl. D. Walters, m.m., Croix-de-Guerre (Belgium).

No. 13861 Pte. J. Marchant, Croix-de-Guerre (Belgium).

No. 15092 Pte. T. Profit, Croix-de-Guerre (Belgium).

No. 15386 Company Sergt.-Major R. G. Roberts, Mentioned in Despatches.

No. 46466 Sergt. A. Hancox, Mentioned in Despatches.

*February 1st.* The battalion was relieved in the Guémappe trenches by the 1st Gordon Highlanders, and marched back to the Carlisle lines, Beau-Rains.

*2nd.* The pending disbandment of the battalion was

notified, and the General Officer Commanding the 3rd Division (Major-General C. J. Deverell), in his farewell speech, explained the terms of disbandment to all ranks, thanked them for their past services, and read the following memorandum from the Commander-in-Chief :

“General Headquarters,  
British Armies in France.

*20th January, 1918.*

The situation with regard to man power has rendered it impossible to maintain all the units now in the field, and in consequence the Army Council have issued orders that a large number of battalions must be broken up. I wish, through you, to convey to the Commanders and all ranks of the battalions about to be disbanded my great regret that this step should have been found necessary.

I know how deeply Officers and men will feel the severance of the ties binding them to the units in which they have served and fought with such splendid gallantry and success and with which they had hoped eventually to return home after the great struggle had been won and their task achieved. But I know also that since this reorganization has to be it will be accepted with the loyalty and devotion with which every trial has been met by British Officers and men throughout the war.

Please convey to the Officers and other ranks concerned, with my deep appreciation of their services in the past, my confidence that they will accept this disappointment in the right spirit and will give to their new units to which they are transferred the same devotion and esprit de corps that they gave to those they have been with until now.

D. HAIG.”

The following farewell messages were received, and published to all ranks.

From General Officer Commanding 76th Brigade :

“Lieut.-Colonel Hunt, acting in Command, feels certain he is voicing General Porter's wishes in conveying his thanks to the Battalion for their splendid work in the past, for their loyalty and esprit de corps, and for their gallantry on all occasions. For General Porter, he wishes the Officers,

Non-commissioned Officers, and men, 'God-speed, and Farewell.' ”

From Lieut.-Colonel J. L. Likeman, D.S.O., Commanding 2nd battalion Suffolk Regiment :

“ I am expressing the feelings of the whole battalion, when I say that it is with the greatest regret that we regard the approaching break-up of the 10th battalion, and the termination of our close friendship. For two years the battalions have fought side by side, and have striven in friendly rivalry in the cricket and football fields.

In these and many other ways we have learnt to appreciate the Royal Welch Fusiliers. We wish you all the best of luck in the battalions to which you will be going, and we trust that you will find there as warm a welcome (if that is possible) as awaits you at any time you may return to the 76th Brigade or the neighbourhood of this battalion.”

From the Officer Commanding (Major G. E. Malcolm) 1st Gordon Highlanders :

“ The Commanding Officer, Officers, and men wish to express their great regret at bidding you farewell. We have played against you, and fought alongside you, and have always found you the best of friends. May you have the best of luck wherever you may be, we will never forget you.”

From Officer Commanding (Lieut.-Colonel R. S. Hunt, D.S.O.) 8th battalion The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) :

“ All ranks of the battalion under my command wish to convey to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and men, of the 10th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, their feeling of very great regret at losing the battalion from the Brigade. On its withdrawal, we of The King's Own, recognise how much the loss means, in comradeship and in mutual trust. We have relieved each other often in the trenches, we have attacked together, and we have beaten off German attacks, shoulder to shoulder.

In bidding you 'Good-bye,' we feel a very real regret and the bursting of a tie that bound us all together in the 76th Brigade, but we wish you, all ranks, the best possible

of luck in the future, and assure you that the past will not be forgotten."

Appropriate letters of thanks were, in each case, returned.

#### CONCLUSION

The disbandment of the 10th Royal Welch Fusiliers was consequent on the decision to reduce the number of battalions from four to three in each Infantry Brigade, owing to the increasing difficulty of providing drafts of the appropriate regiment for making good the wastage of Officers and men in the several units of the same regiment serving at the front.

On 8th February, 1918, the "Fighting 10th" left the 76th Infantry Brigade and marched to Bailleulval accompanied, for the first part of the march, by the pipers of the 1st battalion Gordon Highlanders playing Royal Welch airs.

Thus was the curtain rung down and the battalion, as a unit, disappeared from the stage on which for well over two years of strenuous warfare it had played its part.

Just before disbandment 8 Officers and 150 other ranks were transferred to the 9th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers (19th Division). The remainder of the battalion, together with the 19th battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, formed the 8th Entrenching battalion and came under the command of the VIth Corps. Soon after the launching of the German offensive of March, 1918, 15 Officers and a large proportion of the other ranks were transferred to the Royal Naval Division.

Throughout this account of the temporary existence of a battalion solely raised for fighting purposes under the greatest national crisis which has so far roused our Country to Arms, will be found constantly the words "loyalty," "devotion to duty," "courage," "comradeship," "esprit de corps," all spontaneously expressed by those who were in official or friendly contact with all ranks of the battalion, and each and every word thus expressed indicates the material from which the soldier is moulded.

The battalion was fortunate in beginning with a nucleus of retired Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the

Regular Army, many of whom had served in the 1st or 2nd Royal Welch Fusiliers, and from whom esprit de corps and pride in the traditions of the regiment were easily learned and absorbed by the 10th battalion, and the wisdom of which was so clearly foreseen in the Proclamation incorporating the so-called Kitchener's Armies' battalions in the old historic regiments of the Regular Army.

The "Call-to-Arms" during August and September, 1914, resulted in a rush "to serve" by the best of our manhood, and fortunate, indeed, were the battalions which had this material to work with.

The battalion had the great fortune of being incorporated in the 3rd Division, famous as a first-class fighting Division, and composed of some of the crack regiments of the Army, and very soon after the battalion's arrival in the Belgo-French theatre of war it proved its mettle and after a time became known as the "Fighting 10th."

The battalion landed in France on 27th September, 1915, and was disbanded on 2nd February, 1918, a period of two and a third years only.

During this it spent 241 days actually in the trenches, sometimes within 30 yards of a vigilant and active enemy, and a somewhat period similar in so-called rest camps or rest billets, within easy marching distance (and also, it may be said, occasional hostile shell fire), and the remaining time was passed in strenuous training at Brigade or Divisional Training areas preparatory to battle action.

The battalion's casualties were naturally severe; of the Officers, 51 were killed in action or died of wounds, 63 were wounded once, 6 wounded twice, and 1 became a prisoner of war.

Of other ranks over 700\* were killed in action, died of wounds, or were reported as missing. Over 1500 were wounded (including some wounded more than once) and 70 became prisoners of war.

The battalion's first contact with the Germans was in the celebrated Hooge trenches in the Ypres Salient. It then was prominent in the actions of the Bluff and the actions of

\* According to the Official Roll, issued by the Stationery Office, of those who laid down their lives in the Royal Welch Fusiliers during the Great War, the total number for the Regiment is given as 9,417, including 756 for the 10th Battalion.



St. Eloi in March, 1916, and then moved further south to take part in the operations in the Somme area, where it fought in the battles of Bazentin Ridge, Delville Wood (including the attacks on Lonely Trench), and the Ancre. During 1917 it fought in the Battles of Arras, including the first, second, and third Battles of the Scarpe, and also Arleux. These actions included the heavy fighting around Monchy-le-Preux and the capture of the Infantry Hill situated about half a mile east of Monchy-le-Preux. In September, 1917, the battalion took part in the Flanders offensive at the Battle of Polygon Wood, which included the operations leading up to the capture of the main position of Zonnebeke. The battalion also undertook the usual routine of "week-in, week-out" of manning the trenches, which entailed much hard work, exposure and a never-ceasing drain of casualties.

Out of the long roll of Battle Honours won by battalions of the Royal Welch Fusiliers during the Great War, the 10th battalion earned, wholly or in part, the following: "Ypres, 1917"; "Somme, 1916"; "Bazentin"; "Delville Wood"; "Ancre, 1916"; "Arras, 1917"; "Scarpe, 1917"; "Arleux"; "Polygon Wood"; "France and Flanders, 1914-18."

The following list of Honours and Decorations won individually is also a fitting record to the battalion as a whole: Victoria Cross, 2; Distinguished Service Order, 5; Military Cross, 15; Bar to Military Cross, 1; Distinguished Conduct Medal, 8; Military Medal, 53; Bar to Military Medal, 2; Albert Medal, 1; Legion d'Honneur (France), 1; Croix de Guerre (France), 1; Croix de Guerre (Belgium), 5; Cross of St. George (Russia), 1; besides a long roll of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and men who were mentioned in despatches for special or distinguished services.

Finally, with fitting ceremony, silk Union flags were presented to representatives of all the temporary battalions of the Royal Welch Fusiliers by Lieut.-General Sir Francis Lloyd, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., etc., Colonel of the Regiment, the flag of the 10th being deposited in Wrexham Parish Church, there to remain a perpetual memorial to the part taken by the 10th battalion in the Great War, 1914-18.

## AFTER NOTE

It has been difficult to obtain much information as to Officers and other ranks after their dispersal on 8th February, 1918, and their further deeds throughout the few remaining months of the Great War will have appeared in the annals of their new units.

All ranks will have been grieved at hearing of the death of Lieut.-Colonel A. J. S. James, who, joining the battalion as 2nd Lieut. in January, 1915, at Winton, Bournemouth, served with it throughout its existence, ending as Commanding Officer with acting rank of Lieut.-Colonel, and after transfer to Command the 8th King's Own (R.L.) Regiment (76th Brigade) was killed in action on 28th March, 1918.

His award to a Distinguished Service Order was not notified before the dispersal of the battalion, and therefore does not appear in the Diary.

Acting Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Compton-Smith, D.S.O., when serving in Ireland in April, 1921, was captured and shot by Sinn Feiners.

Captain A. Newitt, M.C., was also transferred in March, 1918, to the 8th King's Own (R.L.) Regiment to act as Adjutant, and was with Colonel James when he was killed.

Lieut. J. G. Williams was subsequently killed in action in September, 1918, when with his new unit, as also was Lieut. F. M. Arnold in May, 1918.

Lieut. E. T. Llewelyn died of wounds in May, 1918, when serving with the battalion to which he had been posted.

Lieut. A. P. Comyns and Lieut. C. H. Elphick were both awarded the Military Cross in 1918, the former was serving with General Carey's "scallywags" on the Somme and the latter with the 9th battalion of the Royal Welch Fusiliers.

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS

To make the publication of this War Diary possible, it was necessary to obtain a guarantee fund to which the undermentioned subscribed: Lieut.-Colonels—F. N. Burton; F. A. Samuel, D.S.O.; George R. Crosfield, D.S.O.; Majors—A. de L. Long, D.S.O.; H. Hall-Morgan; A. E.

## 100 ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

Humphreys-Owen; C. J. F. Dent; Captains—Bernard Grellier, m.c.; A. W. Fish, m.c.; E. W. Bell; C. G. N. Morgan, m.c.; M. Watcyn-Williams, m.c.; J. R. Williams; D. Picton-Evans, c.f.; Lieuts.—A. G. W. A. Buchanan; J. H. L. Glasbrook; A. G. Williams; T. E. Williams; A. P. Comyns, m.c.; D. C. Hunter, m.c.









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